

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Tuesday vetoed a trade bill that would require U.S. retaliation against countries with unfair barriers to American goods. The House of Representatives was expected to vote to override the veto late today. The bill said that if a country's trade practices might not be able to muster the two-thirds vote needed to override, casting doubt on the chances for a major trade bill this year. The president immediately asked Congress to send him a stripped-down version of the 1,600 page bill, saying, "I want to sign a trade bill this year." White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Reagan would sign a bill that deleted the plant-closing notification feature and provisions restricting the export of technology. The bill includes a requirement, to which Reagan objected, that companies must lay off workers 60 days before a 30-day advance notice of plant closings and layoffs. "It is with sincere regret that today I must disapprove and return... the omnibus trade and competitiveness act of 1988," Reagan's message said.

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية .الراي.

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جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الرأي.

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwait is negotiating with the United States, France and Egypt for combat jets, anti-aircraft missiles and other weapons worth several billion dollars. Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah said Tuesday. He said Kuwait seeks 40 F-18 jet fighters and an unspecified number of shoulder-fired Stinger anti-aircraft missiles from the United States. The minister, talking to newspaper editors and the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), said the deal could be finalised when Sheikh Saad Abdullah Al Sabah, the crown prince and prime minister, visits Washington in July. He said that Kuwait was also seeking Mirage jets from France and unspecified weapons from Egypt. U.S. officials disclosed earlier this month that Washington backs Kuwait's request for the twin-engine F-18s. If the U.S. Congress approves the deal, Kuwait will be the first Arab country to get the advanced jets. Sheikh Nawaf said that "negotiations are continuing" for the jets. "Kuwait is also trying again to obtain Stinger shoulder-launched missiles," he said. The rejection of a previous Kuwait request for the jets, The Washington Post said last week, had been a major lobby in Congress blocked the sale of Stingers to Kuwait in 1981.

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

AMMAN (Petra)— His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday sent a cable to Argentine President Raul Alfonsín congratulating him on his country's Independence Day and wishing him continued good health and wishing the Argentine people further progress and prosperity.

UAE to attend Arab summit

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has accepted an invitation to attend the Algiers summit June 7, the official news agency WAM said. "The UAE believes that any Arab summit should discuss all Arab issues and agree on a firm and clear plan that will benefit the Arab Nation," an official source told WAM.

BAGHDAD (R) — President Francois Mitterrand has assured Iraq of France's friendship, despite a proposed renewal of ties with Iran, the Iraqi news agency (INA) said Tuesday. "The options for France in the Middle East... are clear: peace and security for states and justice for peoples," INA quoted Mitterrand as saying in a telegram to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. "(This is) in addition to its commitment to its obligations and sincerity to its friendship... and this means in particular Iraq, confronting for several years the ordeal of the painful war," Mitterrand added.

Mubarak ends N. Yemen visit

SANAA (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak left North Yemen Tuesday for Addis Ababa to attend the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit. Mubarak during his three-day visit, his first to North Yemen as president, held talks with President Ali Abdullah Saleh on Red Sea security, Arab issues and bilateral cooperation, diplomats said.

ADDIS ABABA (R) — The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) postponed a meeting on the Chad-Libya border dispute Tuesday because the heads of state of Algeria and Nigeria did not arrive in time, conference sources said. An OAU ad hoc committee on the dispute over the Aouzou border strip was due to meet at a report by its chairman, President Omer Bongo of Gabon. But Chadi Benjedid of Algeria and Ibrahim Babangida of Nigeria were still on their way to Addis Ababa and the other committee members called off the meeting until some time during an OAU summit starting Thursday.

MUSCAT (AP) — Sultan Qaboos of Oman conferred Tuesday with U.S. envoy Vernon Walters on the Iran-Iraq war and the Arab-Israeli conflict, diplomatic sources reported. Walters, the U.S. ambassador at the United Nations, met Monday night with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yousef Al Alawi, the diplomats said. There were no official statements on the talks. Oman is the fifth stop on Walters' Middle East tour.

LONDON (R) — Three men were jailed for up to six years at London's Old Bailey criminal court Tuesday for conspiracy to defraud the Iranian government of \$40 million worth of arms, court sources said. Michael Aspin was jailed for six years, Eric Matson, a lieutenant colonel in the United Arab Emirates, for three years and William Harper for two years for "persistent and deliberate fraud." The court heard the three had promised delivery of arms, including 5,000 anti-tank missiles, but were caught after Swiss middlemen became suspicious and called in the police.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Jewish settlers clashed with Palestinians in the occupied West Bank town of Ramallah Tuesday and Israeli soldiers shot and wounded a Palestinian in another incident as the occupied territories braced for a day of escalated protests Wednesday.

Also Tuesday, an Israeli military court in Nablus began trying a Palestinian woman, Muneira Daoud, on charges of causing serious bodily harm for allegedly stoning a Jewish settler.

According to the charge sheet, Daoud's action prompted the settler to fire his gun and accidentally kill an Israeli teenager in the West Bank village of Beita during a melee April 6, Israeli news reports said.

Israeli parliamentarian Yossi Sarid told reporters at the Nablus court the charges showed Israel's dual justice system, one for Jews and one for Arabs.

"I think this indictment is an example of the terrible distortion in the rule of law in Israel," Sarid said.

The court extended the detention of five other Beita residents involved in the incident.

A petrol bomb was thrown by unidentified assailants in an alleyway of Arab Jerusalem, but did not cause any harm, police said.

Army engineers earlier safely dismantled an explosive charge found in Jerusalem's Jewish suburb of Gilo.

Israeli soldiers opened fire on Palestinian protesters in the village of Beit Fakir, near Nablus, and shot and wounded a Palestinian protester in the back Tuesday.

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Iranian-backed Shi'ite fighters stormed into the last stronghold of pro-Syrian rivals in south Beirut's slums Tuesday, intensifying pressure on Syria to send its army in to end the 19-day-old shantytown bloodbath.

Police said at least 17 people were killed and 49 wounded in house-to-house fighting for control of the warren of narrow alleyways that sprawls over 40 square kilometres near Beirut airport.

That raised the casualty toll since the fighting broke out May 6 to at least 251 people killed and 1,000 wounded, by police count.

In east Beirut, the right-wing Falange militia and the Lebanese Forces, the rightists' main military machine, clashed during the night in a resurgence of a power struggle.

Police said the fighting erupted after the Lebanese Forces shot and wounded Nabil Kahhaleh, the Falange commander in the Sin Ajl Fil district, in an ambush.

Police reported that one person was killed and four wounded before the fighting was contained.

However, the clashes came amid mounting friction between the Falange, which is led by President Amin Gemayel, and the Lebanese Forces for control of the Christian enclave.

The Iranian-backed Hizbollah

(Party of God) now controls 95 per cent of south Beirut, where most of the foreign hostages held by factions linked to Hizbollah are believed to be imprisoned.

A police spokesman said Hizbollah fighters "stormed through Amal positions" in the Ghebeiry neighbourhood behind a fierce howitzer and mortar barrage.

Likud propose

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Yitshak Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc Tuesday threatened to hold early national elections as a new political struggle erupted with its coalition partner and chief rival, the Labour Party.

Likud's threat to push for elections Aug. 23 came after Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' Labour proposed separating national and municipal elections, both now scheduled Nov. 1.

"It is worth holding early elections because many things have not been decided," Shamir told reporters while touring the northern town of Yoqueam. "If possible, we should shorten, to gain time and to avoid public nervousness."

The jockeying over dates follows a shift in popularity to Likud prompted by voters' fears of violence in the five-month Palestinian uprising.

BRUSSELS (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres appealed to the European Economic Community (EEC) Tuesday to keep the Middle East peace process alive and encourage Moscow to play a constructive role in the region.

"Every possible contribution to further peace in the Middle East must be mobilised right now," Peres told a news conference after meeting foreign ministers of the 12 EEC states.

"Europe can and should play a role in bringing the Middle East to a different future of both peace and economic prosperity," he added.

West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher, the current chairman of EEC ministerial meetings, told the news conference that the community had expressed its concern over Israel's often brutal handling of the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza.

"The situation in the occupied territories was at the heart of our discussions. We stressed the need for finding a political solution to the problem. The status quo is untenable," he said.

But he reaffirmed the EEC's strong support for an international peace conference in the Middle East — an idea backed by Peres and rejected by his right-wing political rival, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

"The peace process should remain on the agenda of all important international meetings including the upcoming U.S.-Soviet summit," Genscher said.

"...All responsible states should maintain the momentum of the peace process irrespective of the fact that there are elections in the United States and that there will be elections in Israel," he added.

Diplomats said Peres needed international support for his strategy of seeking a peace conference to help him in the Israeli general elections due later this year.

But Peres himself played down electoral considerations.

"The road to peace is long and full of obstacles, difficulties, setbacks and disappointments. I cannot promise that we can have a breakthrough in one week, one month or one summit," he said.

"What is so essential is to keep the peace process alive in Moscow, Washington, Brussels, Amman, Cairo... it's more important to win peace for my country than to win an election for my party," he added.

Ramallah residents said settlers drove into the city and began shooting towards demonstrators who had earlier stoned a settler car. The army intervened against the protesters with live ammunition and tear-gas, but there were no reported injuries.

Other Israeli news reports said soldiers vandalised some Palestinian schools, smashing chairs and desks, when they used the buildings as bases during the five-month-old Palestinian uprising. The schools reopened Monday after a four-month closure because of the anti-occupation revolt.

Meanwhile the reopening of schools was viewed by both the Israeli occupation authorities and prominent Palestinians Tuesday as a victory for their separate interests.

Nearly all 200,000 West Bank primary school pupils and more than half of Arab Jerusalem students returned to the classroom

(Continued on page 5)

AMMAN (J.T.)— Jordan today celebrates the 42nd anniversary of independence from Britain.

Independence came on May 25, 1946, fulfilling one of the objectives of the Great Arab Revolt, which began early this century with the aim of liberating Arab countries from foreign domination.

On the occasion of Independence Day, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, issued a statement outlining Jordan's achievements in development and its efforts in the service of Arab causes on pan-Arab and international fronts under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

The statement noted that Jordan's Armed Forces had now grown to number 120,000 from 6,500 on independence and stand as a strong shield to protect the country and the Arab Nation in the face of external dangers.

The Petra statement also gave details and figures about development achievements of Jordan on the domestic front with particular emphasis on health services, education and public services, and outlined progress achieved in the field of agriculture and industry.

The statement also reviewed developments on the political front and Jordan's continued efforts to liberate Arab lands. It reaffirmed that Jordan was seeking to convene an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of

ATLANTA (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday discussed means of promoting economic and commercial relations between Jordan and the state of Georgia with Georgia Governor Joe Frank Harris.

Georgia is one of the U.S. states that have attracted internal and external capitals in view of their investment and industrial development over the past 10 years.

Prince Hassan opened a Jordanian-American trade and investment seminar at Atlanta Monday.

Later Monday Prince Hassan visited the Georgia Technological Institute and was briefed on methods of instruction and possibilities of cooperation between the institute and Jordanian universities, particularly the University of Science and Technology.

Prince Hassan also addressed American businessmen at the Southern International Research Centre on the latest developments in the Middle East region, including the three hot issues, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Iran-Iraq war and the Afghan question. The Crown Prince also briefed them on Jordan's development plans.

qan Tuesday said that water supply in Amman and elsewhere in the Kingdom was free from any chemical or bacterial contamination.

Speaking at a press conference held at the Information Ministry, Dakhkan underlined the government's interest in providing safe and clean water to all citizens throughout the Kingdom.

The ministry was primarily created with the aim of drawing up water policy and to provide safe and clean water for all uses to all citizens, the minister said.

The recent six-day suspension of water supply to Marka and the neighbouring areas was because of technical faults in the water network, he said.

The suspension coincided with the incidence of a number of diarrhoeal cases in the area, a matter that prompted the ministry to ask a specialised team from the Water Authority laboratories to draw 23 water samples from the affected area and from 'Ain Ghazal reservoir which supplies the area with water, Dakhkan said. The laboratory tests found Sunday that the water samples were clear from any chemical or bacterial contamination and were in conformity with the Jordanian standards, except one sample which was found to have not met the officially-accepted standard.

WASHINGTON (R) — The two party leaders in the Senate said they planned to act Tuesday to cut off debate on the U.S.-Soviet treaty banning medium-range missiles and the accord could be approved in time for the Moscow summit.

Democrat Robert Byrd said "the chances are pretty good" that action on the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty could be completed by Friday or Saturday.

He and Republican leader Robert Dole spoke to reporters as they emerged from a meeting with President Reagan at the White House.

Reagan and other officials have been calling for approval of the treaty before Reagan's fourth meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, but a few conservative foes of the treaty have been stalling progress in the Senate.

Byrd said he intended to file a motion in the Senate Tuesday that would set the clock running towards a debate cutoff.

Reagan leaves Wednesday morning for Helsinki where he will stay before going on to Moscow Sunday. The administration wants the exchange of INF treaty ratification documents between the two leaders to be a highlight of the summit.

Dole, who has repeatedly urged his Republican colleagues to allow debate to move forward, said only two Republican conservatives, senators Jesse Helms and Gordon Humphrey, were standing in the way.

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan, outlining his agenda for the Moscow summit, said Tuesday there were still wide East-West differences and that realism would guide his talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"From the beginning, our administration has sought to pursue a policy toward the Soviet Union based on realism, on reasoned interchange with the Soviets and, yes, on strength," especially Western unity," Reagan said in a speech televised in Europe and Asia via the U.S. Worldnet satellite system.

The taped speech, designed to reassure the allies that Washing-

ton will not desert them in its quest for better relations with Moscow, aired as Reagan participated in a flurry of pre-summit meetings on the eve of his departure for Helsinki en route to the May 29-30 summit.

These included a session with legislative leaders and a cabinet meeting set for later in the day to focus on the four topics Reagan said he would discuss with Gorbachev: arms control, human rights, regional problems and bilateral issues.

"As we negotiate from strength, we are guided by realism — realism about just what can be achieved in our relations

with the Soviet Union and about what the Soviets themselves seek to achieve," Reagan said.

Reagan, who will set foot in Moscow for the first time next Sunday and become the first American president to visit there in 14 years, said Western unity and strength had already yielded results, including the pact banning intermediate-range nuclear missiles (INF).

"It offers an essential lesson for Western policy toward the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact — that free nations will gain their objectives when they stand firm," Reagan said.

AMMAN (Petra) — Water and Irrigation Minister Ahmad Dakhan Tuesday said that water supply in Amman and elsewhere in the Kingdom was free from any chemical or bacterial contamination.

Speaking at a press conference held at the Information Ministry, Dakhan underlined the government's interest in providing safe and clean water to all citizens throughout the Kingdom.

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The suspension coincided with the incidence of a number of diarrhoeal cases in the area, a matter that prompted the ministry to ask a specialised team from the Water Authority laboratories to draw 23 water samples from the affected area and from 'Ain Ghazal reservoir which supplies the area with water, Dakhan said. The laboratory tests found Sunday that the water samples were clear from any chemical or bacterial contamination and were in conformity with the Jordanian standards, except one sample which was found to have not met the officially-accepted standards.

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Tuesday it would teach Iran a cruel lesson if it carried out a nuclear war to open the "war of the cities" in which thousands of people died earlier this year.

(Iran) has reaffirmed that the regime is insistent on unleashing the cities war anew, neglecting the interests of its people and the destruction which Iraq... can cause," Iraqi military spokesman Abdul Jabbar Mohsen said the Iraqi news agency (INA).

Mohsen said Iran was heading for "an ordeal it would not be able to stand, because Iraq has always been the more able party in teaching the Tehran regime the most cruel lessons."

Iran said Monday it might resume attacks on population centres. It charged that Iraq had continued air raids and chemical attacks since it halted nearly two months of missile strikes on Tehran and other cities April 20.

Mohsen, who is also head of

the Defence Ministry's Political Department, said Iraq was still committed to its unilaterally declared truce in the missile war.

He said the truce stood "despite Iran's violations and continuous assaults on Iraq's international borders and daily bombardment of its border towns."


Mohsen cited 26 incidents of Iranian bombing of the southern port city of Basra, Sulaimaniyeh in the north, and six other border towns.

Iran Monday listed 11 Iraqi air or artillery bombardments and three chemical attacks which it claimed had killed 88 people and injured 780 since April 20.

Iraq gave no casualty figures and has denied using chemical weapons in attacks on Iran.

An Iraqi military spokesman also said anti-aircraft gunners shot down an Iranian F-5 fighter plane Tuesday over the southern sector of the Gulf warfront.

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Cultivating West Bank and Gaza

IT HAS become almost a cliché to say that Palestinians working in agriculture in the West Bank and Gaza have borne the brunt of the occupation, yet it is nonetheless true. Still, peasants and agricultural engineers alike are trying to find ways to develop the region's potential and to find outlets for produce locally and abroad.

Many different bodies are engaged in practical research and experiments to limit the deterioration in the sector's contribution to West Bank and Gaza economy.

Agriculture continues to account for some 35% of the region's gross domestic product, and is still a major employer, accounting for 20 to 25% of the total labour force.

Over the years, a variety of occupation-related factors have forced many Palestinians off the land: the number of workers employed in agriculture dropped from 49,000 in 1969 to 29,000 in 1983.

In most developing countries, a drop in the agriculture labour force is the normal outcome of growing opportunities in other sectors and the use of modern machinery; in the West Bank and Gaza, farming has become an activity that few farmers can afford.

For one thing, many farmers are forced to continue depending on rainfed agriculture due to restrictions on water use and the drilling of new wells. This makes their crops unduly vulnerable to the climate, and makes it difficult to maximise land use.

Farmers are unable to sell their produce for a reasonable profit: the fact that low-priced Israeli produce has unlimited access to the West Bank and Gaza markets has undercut the produce of Palestinian farmers.

Access to Arab markets across the bridge to Jordan is sometimes restricted in terms of the amount that can be exported.

The high cost of packing and transport often makes this a non-commercial proposition. Tomato growers in the West Bank and Gaza suffered heavy losses in the 1986 season due to restrictions on export.

The local press wrote bitterly of farmers forced to feed their crops to livestock or plough it back into the ground, seeing one of their best harvests ruined. There have been efforts to find new markets for Palestinian produce in Europe, but so far these have not gone very far.

Agricultural labour force

It is estimated that half the agricultural labour force in the West Bank is in the 55-plus age group, and that about 59% of workers in agriculture have only completed five years of education.

Although there are frequent complaints about the lack of agricultural experts and advisers assisting farmers to improve their

methods and output, it is ironic that, of the 211 agricultural engineers in the West Bank who are members of the Agricultural Engineers Union, 61 are unemployed.

The Union estimates that as many as 50% of the employed engineers are in jobs not related to their field of expertise (some working as teachers in secondary and even primary schools), or have found work abroad.

The number of agricultural advisers working in official departments dropped from 142 in 1972 to 68 in 1983.

Some recent graduates have grouped together in an effort both to find an outlet for their talents and to serve their community. They have set up companies that aim to offer agricultural services to farmers, such as providing equipment that would replace the use of manual labour and animals, which is too time consuming to be cost-effective. For instance, using animals to plough the land costs some five to six dinars per dunum, whereas using small tractors costs under two dinars.

Other graduates are planning to set up cooperative farms that would be a source of livelihood, and provide opportunities for training and research, while up-grading and reclaiming more West Bank land.

Research activity

More bodies are engaging in agricultural research, particularly in the area of crop disease and pest control. For example, attention has recently focused on the Phyloxera pest, an insect that attacks and destroys vines and that has already had a destructive impact on this crop in the West Bank. A study was conducted on the Phyloxera by Dr. Sufian Sultan of the Agricultural Engineers Union to warn farmers of the danger and to recommend ways of control.

Grapes are an important West Bank product — perhaps coming in third place after olives and citrus crops. Some 86,653 dunums are planted with vines in the West Bank, producing some 63,415 tons of grapes a year. In recent years, some of the vines have been ravaged by Phyloxera, and some 679 farmers have had to uproot the vines on some 2,450 dunums in the last two years.

In other areas, output is much lower than normal averaging only 400 kg per dunum rather than 800 kg.

The Phyloxera insect can spread fast as it is small enough to

be carried around by wind; it is also spread by men and machines.

Recommended treatments include pesticides, a very expensive remedy in this instance; using vaccinated plants; and forbidding the movement of machines from affected areas to unaffected ones.

In the absence of a national authority, the responsibility for tackling such problems falls on individuals and non-governmental organisations, and in fact the Agricultural Engineers Union recently organised a seminar on the danger Phyloxera posed to the West Bank vine crops.

Research is also being conducted on pests affecting olive trees, as well as on the best variety of olives that can be grown in the region. Preliminary field surveys by some concerned groups have found that pests can destroy up to 30% of the olive crop in some areas.

A survey in 1985 of olive groves in the West Bank revealed that fruit flies affected 54% of the total and spoiled some 17% of the produce, while this year's figures indicated an affected area of 20% and a spoilage of 7%.

Other research is underway on the potential of introducing new crops to the West Bank. For instance, the Arab Scientific Institute for Research is studying the feasibility of growing joboba (pronounced khol-kho-ba), an oil producing desert bush in the hills and semi-arid field crop areas of the West Bank.

ASIR has already planted trees over an area totalling 50 dunums, and some lots produced after only three years of planting.

Home-based production

Meanwhile, there are efforts to encourage home-based production of small animals to provide families with a regular and inexpensive source of protein. Dr. Adnan Shueir of Bethlehem University has been supervising research on various breeds of rabbit, to establish the most suitable type for the West Bank.

After a year's study, the university team developed and adopted new breeds of rabbit that produce the maximum size litter (about 10 offspring) in the minimum period (giving birth every 30 days).

The advantage of growing rabbits for low-income Palestinian families lies in the fact that they consume simple food stuffs, weeds and even table scraps, breed rapidly, and their meat is low in fat.

Other groups are looking into ways of breeding pigeons and



There are efforts to encourage home-based production in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

hens for home production. Experiments on pigeons found that the local (Baladi) breed had a poor growth rate of only half a kilogramme every 30 days, whereas an improved breed, the Malti, grew to 1.5 kilogrammes.

It was also found that methods and cages in use by families that already had pigeons were unhygienic and did not protect pigeons from rats and other predators. Thus there were plans to design and market cages suitable for growing pigeons.

Studies are also being con-

ducted on the use of animal wastes as feedstuffs in combination with plant by-products. The value of this research is clear when it is considered that the cost of feed accounts for some 65% of the total cost of producing livestock.

Introducing animal wastes, as well as better use of agricultural by-products like banana leaves, into the livestock ration can cut down on costs and make it more viable for low-income groups to raise livestock.



EXHIBITION STARTS THURSDAY: An exhibition by Lebanese artist Mahmoud Safa will be opened Thursday at Gallery Alia under the patronage of Royal Jordanian Board Chairman Ali Ghannouch. On display will be 26 paintings depicting popular life in contemporary history. The exhibition will last for one week.

A desert search

EVERY winter since 1979, the Aqaba-Ma'an Archaeological and Epigraphic Survey team has been working for eight challenging weeks in the southern Jordan desert to produce what is now regarded as the best photographic record of North Arabian rock art and inscriptions ever compiled.

Over these years, Dr. Bill Jobling has been leading the Survey, which is funded by the Government of Australia and sponsored by the University of Sydney where he is a senior lecturer. The photographs — some 6,000 high-quality shots — are the work of Michael Bannigan and Richard Morgan, both of whom are graduates of the University of Sydney.

Undertaken in cooperation with the Jordan Department of Antiquities, the Survey is also joined by Jordanian archaeologists assigned to lend specialised advice or aid in the field work.

Each season begins in Amman, where the director obtains the necessary permits and a four-wheel-drive vehicle and makes arrangements for accommodations in the field. The latter are often at an agricultural station, like the one at Dsi at the head of Wadi Rum; but many nights are spent camping in the wadis. A cold and discomfortable business made necessary by the vast distances and difficult terrain.

As an antidote, the team retreats once in a while to Aqaba on the Red Sea, where hotels provide a warm, welcome and where the facilities of the Aqaba Marine Science Station can be used for photographic processing and scientific research.

At the outset, the team goes to Aqaba, where equipment not needed in the field is stored before the work begins. The drive from Amman to the Red Sea takes the best part of the day, along one of the two highways to the south: the Desert Highway and the King's Highway.

All the large transport vehicles running between the north and

the port of Aqaba use the faster desert road. This is one reason why the ancient King's Highway is preferable. Another is that it traverses some of the most spectacular scenery in the world, along the Great Rift Valley where the wadis of Mujib and Araba intersect and where the Shara Mountains lie. These mountains run south towards Aqaba, forming the eastern flank of Wadi Araba, and fan out to the desert.

The King's Highway, following the line of the old caravan route, passes through ancient trading cities like Petra, Karak and Jerash on its way north to Damascus.

The area presently under survey, and that which has the richest yield of rock art and inscriptions, covers some 2,700 square kilometres of desert in southern Jordan. It is situated to the east of Wadi Araba (the main line of the Rift Valley) in the Wadis Hafir and Rum and their offshoots. These wadis lie below the old Edomite Escarpment where Ras en-Naqab stands, the highest point in Jordan and often snow-bound in winter.

A land of amazing beauty and contrast, with huge, brilliantly coloured rock mountains rising sheer out of the desert sand, it is also a land of extremes in temperature and, on the occasions when it rains, given to flash floods of immense force and volume.

A day in the field for the members of the Aqaba-Ma'an Survey begins early. Before sunrise, everyone is up (however reluctantly), dressed and breakfasted. The vehicle has to be checked and refuelled and food bought for the day. Lunch will almost invariably consist of bread (freshly baked from a nearby village, if possible), tomatoes, canned fish, oranges and tea. By 6:30, the team is on the road; and, by 8:00, all are at work.

To obtain the photographic evidence of the desert stones — so far more than 3,000 have been recorded — is to spend the day-

light hours of six days a week, two months a year, in the wadis.

Each rock face is photographed in both black and white and colour. An overall picture of each one is taken, and then individual sections are photographed. Some of the larger and more complex examples are traced on clear, heavy plastic, using different colours to denote different periods of drawing. Each inscription is copied and translated immediately, though much further research is necessary to decipher letters that are unclear or to trace words that appear for the first time.

The work in the wadis is hard and tiring, because of near-impassable roads, extremes of heat and cold and the biting desert winds. The results, however, are eminently rewarding and the remarkable scenery is compensation for all the hardship.

The day in the field ends early. Driving is difficult after dusk and, as the light goes and the shadows lengthen across the rocks, accurate photography becomes impossible. In many cases, only one visit can be made to a site, and it is of the utmost importance that the photographs be sharp and clear for best use in future cataloguing and publication.

At a very early stage of the Survey, it was recognised that the enormous number of inscriptions and drawings would necessitate a meticulous and efficient method of recording if a comprehensive description of the finds was to be established.

This careful approach has resulted in an impressive catalogue of the rock drawings and inscriptions, many of which have been published in international journals. In April 1986, a major photographic exhibition of the Survey's findings was presented at the Third International Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan, which was held at Tubingen in West Germany. Subsequently, the exhibition was shown in Amman and Paris before returning to Australia.



A wadi that was dry in the morning now runs swiftly on the afternoon return to campsite

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16:30 Children's programme
17:00 Special programme on Independence Day

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Local series
18:20 Message from Cairo
18:30 Special programme on pilgrimage

PROGRAMME THREE

19:30 National songs
20:00 News in Arabic
20:40 Programme on Jordan
21:30 Varieties programme
22:00 News summary in Arabic
22:10 Varieties continued

PROGRAMME FOUR

22:30 Champs Elysees
23:00 News in French
23:30 News in Hebrew
23:45 Sports Magazine
24:00 News in Arabic
24:30 Special programme: Years of Prosperity

PROGRAMME FIVE

21:15 Football: European Cup Clubs Final
22:00 News in English
22:15 Continuation of football match
23:00 Jenny's War (last episode)

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& partly on 95.60 KHz, SW

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PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show Continued
10:00 30 Minute Theatre
11:30 Songs from Movies
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Readings
12:30 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:10 News Bulletin
14:30 News Bulletin
14:30 The Young Sound
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News in Summary
16:05 Old Favourites
16:30 Jordan Weekly
17:00 Pop Session
17:30 News Summary
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Science Report

BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 730, 1323 KHz

PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 Time for Verse
07:35 Network Africa 07:40 Book
07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial
07:55 News 08:00 World News 08:09 24
08:15 News Summary 08:30 Report
08:35 News 08:45 The World Today
08:50 Newsdesk 09:30 Meridian 1980
09:35 World News 10:00 Twenty-Four
10:05 News Summary 10:30 Development
10:35 News 11:00 World News 11:00
11:05 Reflections 11:15 Classical Record
11:20 News 11:30 World News 11:30
11:35 Folk in Britain 12:00 World News
12:05 British Press Review 12:15 The
12:20 World Today 12:30 Financial News
12:35 followed by Sports Roundup 12:45
12:50 News 13:00 News Summary
13:05 followed by Ombudsman 13:30 Jazz Score
13:35 News 14:00 News 14:09 News about
14:15 Britain 14:15 Time for Verse 14:25 A
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14:35 World News 15:00 News 15:15 Great
15:20 Love Duet 15:25 The Farming World
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WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ Permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle.

★ Art exhibition by George Kaplanian at the Goethe Institute.

★ Plastic art exhibition by Ghada Dababla at Petra Art Gallery.

★ Art and handicraft exhibition at Rosary College, Jabal Amman.

★ An exhibition about flower arrangement by Na'ela Adnan Massana at the French Cultural Centre.

★ A permanent exhibition of plastic art by 27 Arab artists at the Plaza Hotel.

★ An exhibition of art, folklore and Arabic calligraphy at Irbid Community College.

★ Folklore exhibition at Huwara Community College.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267

American Centre .. 643371

American Cultural Library .. 641520

British Council .. 6361478

French Cultural Centre .. 637009

Goethe Institute .. 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre .. 644203

Spanish Cultural Centre .. 634009

Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777

Haya Arts Centre .. 665195

Husseini Youth Centre .. 6671816

Y.W.C.A. .. 641793

Y.W.M.C.A. .. 664251

Amman Municipal Library .. 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843355

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Am-

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 5320-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

18:15 Agaba (RJ)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:40 Kuwait (RJ)
18:50 London, Athens (RJ)
19:00 Damascus (RJ)
19:10 Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
19:20 Tripoli (LJ)
19:30 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
19:40 Kuwait (TU)
19:50 Karachi (PK)

PRAYER TIMES

03:52 Fajr
05:26 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:32 Dhuhr
16:15 Asr
18:30 Maghrib
21:13 Isha

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

The weather is expected to be fine and sunny with north-westerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, it would be slightly hazy, with northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

08:10 Karachi (PK)
08:30 Cairo (RJ)
08:40 Kuwait (KU)
08:50 Damascus (AZ)
09:00 Sana'a, Jeddah (YF)
09:10 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
09:20 Kuwait (LJ)
09:30 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
09:40 Tunis (TU)
09:50 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
10:00 Paris, Damascus (AF)
10:10 Tripoli, Damascus (PK)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

08:00 Agaba (RJ)
08:30 Vienna, New York (RJ)
08:40 Athens (RJ)
08:50 Geneva, London (RJ)
09:00 Cairo (RJ)
09:10 Riyadh (RJ)
09:20 Doha, Abu Dhabi (GF)
09:30 Bahrain (GF)
09:40 Baghdad (RJ)
09:50 Jeddah (RJ)
10:00 Cairo (RJ)
10:10 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local currency rates in Jds

Belgian franc (for 10) 96.1/ 95.5

Dutch guilder 179/ 183.3

French franc 59.2/ 61.8

Italian lire (for

U.N. rights team interviews Palestinian witnesses of truth

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A United Nations fact finding mission left Amman Tuesday to Cairo after hearing testimonies on Israeli violations from Jordanian officials and 13 West Bank Palestinians who were in Amman for that purpose.

The chairman of the special committee and permanent representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations, Daya Perera, told an informal press conference that the interviewed Palestinian witnesses were "witnesses of the truth."

The three member mandate is on a tour of Jordan, Syria and Egypt specifically to inquire into Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the civilian population in the occupied territories.

According to Perera, the field mission is conducted in neighbouring countries because Israel has continuously denied access to the occupied territories.

"Therefore the members have had to base their work on information gathered in their visits, during which the group interviews individuals from the territories who have first-hand knowledge and personal experience of the human rights situation there."

Perera said that Israel refused to allow the United Nations group to "investigate its policies," and has so far refused to elaborate on the reasons behind its denial.

Permanent representative of Senegal to the United Nations office in Geneva, Alioune Sene, told reporters that the role of

the commission was made easier this year since the uprising had "speeded up much more information. We now have plenty of studies, analysis and accounts of personal tragedies and maltreatment by Israeli authorities in the occupied territories."

The ambassador said that this flow of information is a "sort of spontaneous reaction to the uprising, while before we had to work on gathering and producing information." He pointed out that "this information is more and more alarming in describing the situation in the occupied territories."

The commission combines information which it receives from the regional media reports, communication from governments, individuals and organisations as well as the personal interviews conducted by the group, and then forms a report which they deliver to the U.N. General Assembly in their annual meeting.

During the forthcoming session, the special committee of the General Assembly will have letters from Jordan, Egypt, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Arab League, as well as data collected from non-governmental organisations and individuals. According to a U.N. official much of the data are in connection with the uprising in the occupied territories.

In reply to a Jordan Times question on whether the United States could shift in its pro-Israeli stand, Perera said that "this subject is of concern to the average American citizen, including American Jews, who have taken a view which shows

sympathy with the plight of the Palestinians."

Perera added that Americans are now faced with a large number of information including television news and films which show brutal assaults on young men, as well as the state of "news blackout" imposed by Israeli authorities, "the uprising has created a different climate as far as the United States is concerned and this is apparent from the news media and editorials which have criticised Israeli practices."

"This time they will appreciate the uprising, which we call non-violent, opposed to the violence of the Israelis," he added. Perera said that those are "indications that reactions to our reports of facts will also be different." He predicted that since the "climate is so different, the attitude of the United States may also be different."

Sene told reporters that "year after year there has been a deterioration of the situation. The recent uprising has created a very dramatic situation which requires urgent measures to relax the tension."

He added that these measures would "eliminate this violence, the use of brutal force and aggression."

Sene also pointed out to a shift in Western attitude towards the Palestinian problem, and said it is "because there are many more countries in the U.N. who seem to be more aware of the human rights abuses in the occupied territories."

He cited, as an example, that five Scandinavian ambassadors to the United Nations have sent letters to the committee, in

which they showed concern over Israel's role in the killing of PLO Military Commander Khalil Al Wazir and condemned Israeli practices in the occupied territories.

"As far as I am aware, this is the first time that Western countries independently put forward such letters," he said. Sene stressed that the role of the committee is to submit objective and impartial results, "we are not a tribunal, we are not a court of justice therefore we do not pass judgement on anyone, we just submit a factual report."

The committee met with 13 witnesses in Jordan, two of which were women and another two were Palestinian protesters who were injured in the West Bank and are currently receiving treatment in a Jordanian hospital.

Perera said that testimonies indicated that Israeli authorities are using CS tear-gas which is of a very strong variety that needs to be handled by professionals, and its use should be limited to outdoors. "Testimonies indicated that this tear gas is being used by Israeli authorities in houses," Perera said.

Much of the information the committee receives is composed of contributions made by other U.N. bodies in their respective fields of competence.

These organisations include the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) for status of education in the occupied territories, International Labour Organisation (ILO), and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Prince Mohammad condoles Qal'aji family

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Tuesday delegated Turki Khreisha, the director of his office, to convey his condolences to Qal'aji family on the death of the late Hassan Khreish Qal'aji.

Sharif Zaid receives Italian military delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting Italian military delegation met Tuesday with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker at the army headquarters in Amman.

The delegation, led by the Italian Air Force Commander Lieutenant-General Franco Pisano discussed with Sharif Zaid matters of common interest to Italy and Jordan.

Later the delegation called at the Martyr's Monument and inspected various types of arms and other items which relate the story of the Great Arab Revolt and the development of the Armed Forces in Jordan.

A medal representing the monument was presented to Pisano by the Director of the Armed Forces Moral Guidance Department to commemorate the visit.

Hmoud holds talks with farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — Agriculture Minister Marwan Hmoud Tuesday stressed the need for cooperation between farmers and government, urged them to adopt the cropping system and for abiding by the contracts concluded with the Jordanian Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO).

Later Tuesday he met with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

Spratt also toured touristic and archaeological sites in Amman and was briefed on their historic background.

Awqaf completes plans to transport pilgrims from occupied lands

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs has completed arrangements for transporting pilgrims from the occupied Arab territories to and from the holy places in Saudi Arabia in the coming pilgrimage season, according to the ministry's Pilgrimage Department Director Mohammad Taher.

Taher said that 347 large size and 173 small size air-conditioned buses have been commissioned for the transportation of pilgrims, and if these are not enough, the ministry will hire non-Jordanian buses for the purpose.

The pilgrims would be travelling in convoys of 12 to 15 buses accompanied by a ministry guide and another official, Taher noted.

He said that arrangements have been made for putting up the pilgrims in Mecca and Medina where buildings have been rented for housing the pilgrims during the coming season.

Pilgrims from the occupied territories will begin crossing into the West Bank of Jordan by July 4 and they will be on their way to Mecca by July 7 so as to be there

for the pilgrimage rites that precede the Eid Al Adha, Feast of the Sacrifice, which normally follows Eid Al Fitr by 70 days.

Jordan earlier announced that no more than 15,000 Muslims from both banks of Jordan would be allowed to make the pilgrimage this year.

It also said that arrangements have been made for 29 companies to organise for the transportation of pilgrims to and from the holy places and that sufficient buildings have been made available in Mecca and Medina to house them.

A team from the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs has already visited the two cities and inspected arrangements for pilgrims which can put up at least 14,000 pilgrims, according to

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat in a statement published earlier this month.

According to the minister, pilgrims travelling by air-conditioned buses have to pay JD 257 each, and the fees cover transportation plus accommodation in Mecca and Medina.

The minister also announced that designs are being worked out for an educational centre to be established in Amman for the benefit of would-be pilgrims.

He said that the projected centre, the first of its kind in the Middle East, would comprise of lecture halls, a religious documentary film centre and other facilities.

The estimated cost of the centre which would be set up at Nuzha district could reach JD 1 million, according to Khayyat.

Saudi Arabia had earlier announced measures for limiting the number of pilgrims to Saudi Arabia this year, but according to Ministry of Awqaf's Secretary General Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, Jordan has received no notification from Riyadh about the number of pilgrims to travel from Jordan.

Arabs urged to unify specifications for roads

AMMAN (Petra) — Acting Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Hisham Al Khatib Tuesday opened a five-day meeting by the Arab Union of Land Transport's (AULT) general assembly with a call on members to produce a set of unified specifications for roads, bridges and vehicles employed on the roads of the Arab World.

The minister, who reviewed the main problems impeding the work of the union and land transport in general, said that the union ought to lay down unified regulations for roads and provide proper maps for road networks that can help the drivers and travellers.

"The union is called on to embark on the process of manufacturing components and spare parts for all equipment and vehicles used on the roads in the Arab World so that dependence on

foreign producers can be curtailed," the minister said.

Khatib told the meeting that Jordan was keen on bolstering ties with all Arab countries by land, sea and air.

He said that recent expansion in means of transport has been promoting expansion of trade and travel among these countries.

The minister said: "A good transportation network serves as an infrastructure on which progress and cooperation among and within Arab countries can be achieved."

AULT Secretary General Abdullah Dmour made a speech paying tribute to the existing cooperation between Jordan and the union at all levels.

He reviewed the Arab transport situation and the union's endeavours for enhancing transport links among countries in the East and the West.

Dudin briefs American delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the American Coalition for Promoting Dialogue in the Middle East met here Tuesday with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin and reviewed developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Dudin spoke about the consequences of Israel's continued occupation of Arab land, the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians as a result of this occupation and Israel's arbitrary measures.

Dudin briefed the delegation on the role played by the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs in extending urgent help to the displaced Palestinians.

London mayor praises Rawabdeh's efforts

By Rania Atalla
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Lord Mayor of London Greville Spratt Tuesday identified areas of parallel concern to the two cities of Amman and London, which he said include "overpopulation", traffic, housing, and sewage.

Speaking at an informal press meeting at the British ambassador's residence, Spratt said that his meeting with Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh has served to "integrate ideas" of mutual concern for the cities of London and Amman.

"Amman is a very forward looking city. It gives us new ideas, and a lot of what we have seen in Amman we can imitate in

London," Spratt said.

He said he and his accompanying delegation got a chance to see how the Amman mayor has "coped with problems and difficulties of a city that is expanding so quickly. He has done a tremendous amount of work and he has been very successful."

He said that the commuter problem was but one of the problems common to both London and Amman. "Here, one quarter of a million people come into the city to work, similar to what we have in London, in a larger number, of course." The housing problem here has been dealt with in an outstanding manner," Spratt said, adding that during his tour of Amman, he was impressed by sites built by the Urban

Development Department.

The London mayor said he was also impressed with "the idea of recreation and pleasure parks," in the Greater Amman area.

Asked about Jordanian cities other than Amman, Spratt noted that those have expanded as well. "It will be realistic if other cities develop facilities like those of Amman," Spratt said. "I'm sure the Amman mayor has already considered this," he added.

Spratt said among other duties, he serves as "unpaid ambassador abroad."

Thus, his visit to the country "will strengthen ties of friendship between the United Kingdom and Jordan, ties that have historically been very strong."

In 1946, as a young British army officer, Spratt was seconded

to the Arab Legion and served in the Jordan Valley area until 1948.

When asked how he compared the Jordan of 1948 and that of 1988, Spratt remarked "it cannot be compared... but the people have not changed."

The lord mayor Tuesday also called on Prime Minister Zaid Rifai for a courtesy visit which was attended by British Ambassador to Jordan Anthony Reeve and Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh.

Later Tuesday he met with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

Spratt also toured touristic and archaeological sites in Amman and was briefed on their historic background.

Reuters seeks ways to improve news coverage

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Understanding and conveying to the world, in an impartial manner, the problems which dominate the Middle East region, "is our job," said the editor-in-chief for the international news agency, Reuters, Michael Reupke.

Reupke, with eleven heads of Middle East bureaus and some managers of Reuters, are in Amman for two days to explore ways of improving the news coverage in the area.

According to him the annual internal working conference which begins Wednesday will re-

view the business and editorial operations, discuss problems faced by correspondents, managers and editors, and decide whether the present news coverage meets the subscribers' needs or whether the emphasis should be revised.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Reupke spoke on the challenges which face Reuters, "we have improved our economic cover significantly in the last few years and we want to improve it still further. Some regions, the Middle East being one of them, are less geared to producing statistics. Therefore, we have to find other ways to describe what is happening in the economic

sector."

In 1985 Reuters started news pictures and this year the news agency bought 88 per cent of Visnews shares. "Now we have to find ways to improve the way reporters, photographers and television personnel work together," he said.

An additional challenge is assessing the working conditions of the Reuters bureaus. "We have to look at the way correspondents work, and decide whether there is need for more training of the staff. Also we look at the correspondents working in dangerous situations," Reupke said.

Expanding on the work of the Reuters staff, he pointed out that the majority of the people working were of different nationalities, "the news reports are a combination of individuals and experiences in order to get an impartial perspective. We never rely on one perspective." He added that sometimes the corres-

pondents are limited, therefore, coverage is limited.

Asked what sets Reuters apart from other news conference, he said, "we are geared more internationally and towards the business world so you will find most of our reporters are more aware on these issues. However, the majority of subscribers to other agencies, such as Associated Press and United Press, are in North America and this reflects on their reporters."

Reupke is hosting a dinner on the eve of the conference to honour six distinguished Middle East correspondents who have retired in the last 18 months. They are Khader Nasser (Amman), Edmond Khleif (Damascus), Elias Nawas, Izzat Shukri, Ali Murad and Wafiq Ahwai (Beirut), a Reuters press release said Tuesday.

Reuters distributes information via more than 145,000 video terminals and teleprinters and directly into clients' computers.

British Airways are pleased to announce that its Concorde hot air balloon will be flying over Amman (depending on weather conditions) in the early mornings of May 25, 26 and 27 and will be at the Al Rumman Hill Climb on May 27.

Please watch out for this large silver coloured balloon over the city.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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Editor-in-Chief:
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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
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Jordan Times advertising department.

Arab reconciliation

THE restoration of diplomatic relations between Morocco and Algeria helps create the right atmosphere for the planned extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Algiers, in that it should clear the way for Moroccan participation at the conference. But it will indeed be disappointing if Morocco's summit attendance were the only consideration behind the move.

The Moroccan-Algerian move, which came even as a United Nations report highlighted the stalemate in the Maghreb over the Western Sahara conflict, needs to be followed up in the spirit of Arab unity and dedicated joint action, rather than diplomatic niceties and protocol requirements. The Western Sahara conflict — where Algeria is supporting the Polisario front against Moroccan forces — has grown to become a major inter-Arab conflict, and rears its head whenever Arab unity and joint action are discussed in the context of challenges facing the Arab World. It is no secret that disarray in Arab ranks has been a strong catalyst for many of the simmering conflicts among Arab countries, whether in the Arab-Israeli equation or the Iran-Iraq war. But the Maghreb situation does have a distinction in that all the parties involved are Arab, and thus it holds out the hope of being resolved in a rational manner. But this is easier said than done, if the parties continue to opt for hardline positions.

However, the conspicuous absence of high-level Algerian officials at a Polisario front parade this week may indicate a gradual shift away from continued pursuit of military options. We do indeed hope that Morocco and Algeria have realised the futility in opting for weapons rather than words to settle the conflict, and have appreciated the value of dialogue as the sole means to solve bilateral problems in a manner that is just and acceptable to all. Enough Arab blood has been shed in the sands of Western Sahara, and the impending Algiers summit offers an excellent forum for Rabat and Algiers to initiate a dialogue for a comprehensive settlement which, if need be, could draw upon support from the rest of the Arab World.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Independence day

JORDAN Wednesday celebrates Independence Day, a day which is a source of pride to the Jordanian people and a cause for optimism for the fulfilment of national aspirations. The 42nd anniversary of independence is a reminder to the Jordanian family of the endeavours and the sacrifices of the founders of the Kingdom and the first steps taken towards achieving prosperity. This anniversary rekindles memories of the past, but is also a source of pride in the Great Arab Revolt which was the cause for the birth of the Hashemite Kingdom. Since the creation of the state, the Jordanian leaders have been striving to achieve progress for its people and shouldering national as well as pan-Arab responsibilities. Now, more than four decades after independence, the country serves as a model for other developing nations, and stands stronger than ever before in the face of external threats. It is because of the efforts of the members of the Jordanian family and their sincere and relentless endeavour and hard work under the Hashemite leadership, that the Kingdom now enjoys stability and security. Independence should be protected by the Jordanian people and armed forces if the country wants to maintain stability and pursue the march for further progress.

Al Dustour: Uprising continues

DESPITE Israel's claims that the uprising in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip was faltering, the facts indicate that the Palestinians are uprising, with all their strength, their revolt against Israel's occupation of their land and against oppression. Israel's gradual opening of elementary schools in occupied Jerusalem was an attempt to mislead world public opinion that the situation was calm enough to allow such a procedure, and could be an attempt to persuade the Arab population to give up their uprising. But the Israeli leaders realise beyond any doubt that the Palestinian uprising came about for the liberation of Arab land and for an end to occupation, and that it will not stop until these aspirations have been achieved. The past six months witnessed strong resistance on the part of the Arab population, and Israel's various barbaric measures to put down that resistance and end the uprising came to no avail. The Palestinian people under Israeli rule have taken an irrevocable step designed to liberate their homeland; and therefore, Israel with all its power and its carrot and the stick policy can never deter the Arab population from pursuing the struggle for attaining their national objectives. For this reason, Arabs everywhere consider the uprising as a sign of hope and self-confidence; and consider the sacrifices and the heroic struggle as part of the nation's endeavour for victory.

Sawt Al Shaab: Crown Prince in Atlanta

PRINCE Hassan's call on the advanced nations to take into consideration the interests of the developing countries, coincides with current efforts being made world-wide for equitable relations between the rich and the poor nations of the world. The call made in Atlanta, Georgia stemmed from Prince Hassan's realisation of the deep suffering of the peoples in the Third World, the hunger, the accumulating debts and the regional conflicts that had bedevilled them over the past years. Prince Hassan said that the industrialised nations meeting in Canada next month should try to avoid any measures that could bring about another world economic disaster, stressing that the international community should show cooperation because world interests are intermingled. Any imbalance in world economic and trade relations are bound to adversely affect the poor nations and are bound to cause more sufferings in the Third World. There is no doubt that the vast allocations made for armament alone can solve the problems of millions of people around the world suffering from diseases and epidemics, pollution and hunger.

Jordan's financial market could become area's centre

By Nayef S. Zubi

THE government has recently announced the rules of mergers among financial companies and commercial banks. The purpose of the government action is to set the stage for an orderly development of the "Investment Banking" function in Jordan, an activity that is yet in its infancy. A healthy and an active private sector obviously needs the harmonious evolution of this important aspect of financial capital markets.

But, the development of capital markets — investment banking function included — is not an isolated event. It only goes hand in hand with a developing private sector. It requires parallel development of business institutions: business colleges, business research centres, and firms specialised in analysing business and investment information; and a more informed average investor.

Public education on the role of the private sector and the market economy as an efficient allocative mechanism is needed to eliminate misconception about such a role. A misconception that is not without a just reason. People have only associated a larger role for the private sector with more potential exploitation by a minority group.

They have envisaged a move towards a market oriented economy to mean a magnification of an already disequilibrium situation. A situation where the rich get richer and where the poor are left without protection.

A larger role for the private sector, if properly developed, need not be confused with "Al-Infithah" experiment of Egypt in the 1970's. The development of a central financial capital market need not be associated with "Souq Al-Manakh" experience. A role for the private sector should not mean a new-hat economic, social, and political status quo, nor should the development of capital markets mean selling the New York Empire State Building to the just arriving Indian.

A genuine private sector can provide the means for upward social mobility. Also, it can bring about competition for an efficient management of economic resources.

The management of corporate sector, if left to market forces, will simply mean: Social Darwinism at work. Providing uninterrupted flow of business information to participants in economic activity, is a safeguard that assures proper functioning of private sector.

Raising the business awareness of the average investor is also another safeguard.

Role and environment

Understanding the role of financial markets and the environments in which they operate is a pre-requisite for their expedient development.

Financial capital markets channel and allocate the flow of saving of the society to the demanders of funds in a highly efficient fashion.

The imbalance between the saving and the investment of various economic units stems from different attitudes towards desired present and future rates of consumption, and present and future holdings in wealth.

Thus, Jordan Rockwool Industries (JRI) Corporation, when it issues one million shares of additional common stocks, could attract the savings of Dr. Hamid, whose office is down the street from the Corporation headquarters. Dr. Hamid, who has excess present savings, channels funds to JRI Corporation, which has excess investment or equivalently deficient savings (deficient retained earnings). Competition among demanders of funds, i.e., government and business, will increase efficiency with which capital is used, thus augmenting real income growth in the economy.

Besides a more efficient allocation of financial capital, capital markets could also raise the level of domestic savings. Capital markets supplement the traditional types of financial assets such as demand and savings deposits, by a variety of financial assets that differ in liquidity, yields, and risks. This wide range of financial assets invites people to increase their savings; since capital markets allow them to achieve a diversified wealth composition that is easy to adjust with speed, and at a low cost.

As the financial market develops, various intermediaries are created to facilitate the flow of savings to the ultimate demanders of funds. They do so by pooling the savings of many economic units and reinvesting them in debt and equity securities.

In Jordan, examples of such financial intermediaries include: commercial banks, housing banks, pension funds, postal savings fund, life insurance companies, finance companies, and social security corporation. These financial institutions differ in the type of savings solicited and in the kind of investments made. The economic functions that financial intermediaries serve, is reducing both transaction and lending costs. They do so by:

- Establishing known central places of business, thereby eliminating the necessity of lenders and borrowers to seek out their counterparts;

- Introducing standard contracts with lenders and borrowers. Deposit accounts are an example of a standard contract with lenders: consumer loans and mortgages are examples of standard contracts with borrowers.

- Standardising collection of information about prospective borrowers and by invoking standard rules for evaluating and classifying borrowing as to loan eligibility.

Over the years, the world financial markets have been growing more complex, and more diversified in the types of financial instruments they offer. Today's financial markets are moving more and more toward integration. In fact, studies have shown that financial markets move together. The New York Stock Exchange is not as far from London or Tokyo exchanges as the physical distance might suggest. Most recently, the chairman of Sony Corporation assailed the politicians' continuous neglect of this aspect of modern world economy by saying, "Goods and money move globally, but as long as politicians emphasise their national borders rather than recognising global relations, that is, as long as the economic issues between the United States and Japan, for example, are made into national political issues, the real economic issues of today are being neglected."

Recognising the high degree by which Jordan's economy is linked to other world and regional economies only highlights the limitations of national policies and the difficulty of immunising Jordan's economy from external shocks.

For example, the impact of the economic and political developments in the area on the level of Jordan's economic activity in general, and Amman Financial Market (AFM) in specific, is a foregone conclusion.

In fact, the interdependence among regional economies could easily explain the observed depressed stock prices of AFM. The value of a traded asset is no more than the discounted future cash flows. The uncertainty that engulfs the whole area, the depressed oil markets, the depressed demand for goods and services, and the flight of capital outside the area, are just few examples that would increase the discount factor, and thus depress the value of financial assets: equity and bonds as well as real assets: real estate, machinery, etc.

The role of information

Important to the proper functioning of today's financial markets is the need to make information on business activities and financial assets instantly available and almost costless to obtain.

The role of financial capital markets channelling and allocating capital is only promoted by informational efficiency. Otherwise, all we will end with is a "Casino." Speculative bubbles will be mistaken for economic booms. The government duty here is to facilitate the dissemination of information about companies active in such markets. Coverage does not serve economic development, nor does it foster confidence.

It is also the duty of the government to protect investors from those operating at an unfair advantage. The recent insider trading scandal of Ivan Boesky of the United States only highlights the importance of information to fair trading.

The Boesky affair also indicates that even in a well-developed financial market, governments are required to tighten the regulations of financial markets from time to time. The financial market need not be an elitist institution, with big investors dominating the scene.

The Business Schools' curriculum and research in Jordan, should reflect private sector needs and should serve the final goal of establishing sound financial markets. The business finance of the 1980's is no longer a guesswork.

It is growing to be less ad hoc and more precise. The theory and experience, accumulated in the Western World over the years, could help our endeavours in Jordan.

The Jordanian financial capital market, if properly developed, could serve as a centre for the whole area. This development should be accompanied by financial firms specialising in analysing business information relevant to the activities of business firms. A well business educated average investor is indispensable to properly functioning financial markets.



Dukakis prefers multilateral action in trouble spots

By Michael Gelb
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Michael Dukakis's first instinct in a foreign crisis would be to look for help from the United States' allies.

The Massachusetts governor, the almost certain Democratic presidential candidate against Republican Vice President George Bush in the November election, says the Reagan administration has been too quick to go it alone.

A study of his speeches and interviews with his foreign policy advisers make clear that as president, he would prefer to avoid unilateral action whenever possible.

"One of the lessons he has drawn from history is that the United States acts most effectively when it acts in concert with its friends and allies," top foreign policy adviser Jim Steinberg told Reuters.

That's not to say that under

some circumstances we don't have to act alone... when paramount U.S. interests are at stake," he said. "But as an instinct, Dukakis says that if we can act with others we are going to be more effective and we are going to be able to achieve our goals to a much greater degree."

During his campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination Dukakis has promised that if elected he would:

- Press for international action to end South Africa's system of racial apartheid.

- Seek a U.N. embargo of arms sales to Iran and Iraq in a bid to end the Gulf war.

- Avidly support Costa Rican President Oscar Arias' efforts to conclude a regional peace in Central America.

- Call a summit meeting with Latin American countries to seek ways to ease the region's debt burden.

"We believe in defending freedom. We believe that the best

way to do that is not by going it alone, but by building strong alliances," he said at the University of Wisconsin.

In a speech in New Hampshire, Dukakis criticised the Reagan administration's fondness for unilateral action.

"It has acted alone when it should have sought support from regional powers. It has relied on force when it should have used diplomacy. It has tried to manipulate nations when he should have tried to understand them," Dukakis said.

He says, for example, that years of unilateral U.S. aid to contra rebels in Nicaragua did nothing to advance American policy goals. He adds that Nicaragua's Sandinista government has taken tentative steps to ease political repression only because of the regional peace effort initiated by Arias.

Dukakis also pledges to work more closely with America's European allies in adopting nego-

tiating tactics in arms talks with the Soviet Union and in setting Western military policy.

"We have an interest in having our allies feel they are part of our decision-making process," Steinberg told Reuters.

Dukakis would also be far less likely than Reagan to build new nuclear weapons systems.

He says fiscal restraints demand a closer scrutiny of proposed arms spending and that, in any event, the most pressing U.S. military need is to bolster conventional forces.

"Anyone — whether in Moscow or Washington — who is still saying today that world leadership requires us to squander billions more on strategic weapons systems that will add nothing to our ability to deter nuclear war is dead wrong," he said in New Hampshire.

And in a major policy address in Dallas, he said that strong conventional forces were essential to reducing the prospects of

nuclear war. "Conventional weakness invites conventional war... conventional war can escalate into nuclear war," he said.

His foreign policy would also have a high moral content.

Dukakis speaks passionately about human rights and honouring U.S. treaty obligations. A lawyer by training, he has repeatedly chastised the Reagan administration for violating international treaties in backing the Contras.

"We believe — even when our government does not — in respect for the rule of law, at home and overseas. And we believe in basic human rights," he says in a typical comment.

Dukakis says he would not let a treaty stand in the way of national security and points out that there are legal mechanisms for abrogating such international accords.

"If a president wants to revoke a treaty, then there is a procedure for doing so... until and unless

that is done, he and the Congress are bound by it," he said in an interview with the Des Moines Register.

He is harsh in discussing Reagan's resistance to economic and political sanctions against South Africa.

"How does our failure to stand up to racism and repression reflect the character and principles and the ideals of the American people," he asks when out campaigning.

Some political analysts say his moral streak is reminiscent of the last Democratic president, Jimmy Carter, who critics believe let his moral concerns cloud his understanding of U.S. self-interest.

Dukakis and his aides counter by saying that Reagan, by ignoring moral considerations, shows contempt for American ideals.

"Human rights is very much a part of the fabric of our foreign policy," says Steinberg. "It did not originate with Jimmy Carter."

Hungarian change seen boosting reform in East Europe

By Colin McIntyre
Reuters

VIENNA — The radical reshuffle in the Hungarian leadership is likely to boost reformers elsewhere in the Communist world, while sending a chill through old-guard conservatives of the Kadar generation.

The replacement of veteran Hungarian Leader Janos Kadar, a one-time reformer now seen as a conservative, could unleash radical economic and political reforms that would increase the gulf between countries pushing for change, and those sitting tight, Western diplomats said.

"This will put Hungary even further ahead of its East Euro-

pean allies on the road to reform," Hungarian ideological chief Janos Berecz told Reuters.

"It will be a shot in the arm for reformers in other Communist countries," a Western diplomat said.

At the same time the way Kadar was eased out after nearly 32 years in power by impatient young reformers could ring alarm bells among other ageing leaders who rose to power in the anti-reformist era of former Soviet Leader Leonid Brezhnev.

"Their days are numbered," the London Times commented in an editorial.

Significantly Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who shares the Hungarians' reformist zeal, was quick to send a fulsome

salute to new leader Karoly Grosz, calling him "a principled Communist and authoritative leader."

Gorbachev's message came on the eve of a key meeting of the Soviet party central committee which on Monday approved a blueprint to advance his own reform programme, similar in many respects to the Hungarian model.

But in East Germany, whose leadership has dismissed a need for reforms, some official media reported the changes in Budapest by quoting Kadar as stressing his commitment to Communism and a one-party state, and ignoring Grosz.

What clearly concerns the East Germans is that the Hungarians are pushing not just for radical

economic reforms challenging the fundamental tenets of the Communist system, such as the right to a job, but for political reforms as well.

The Hungarians, and Gorbachev, are seeking to broaden the decision-making process by increasing the role of government and party bodies at the expense of the party.

Hungary could go further down that road than Moscow is presently prepared to travel, Western diplomats said, noting the entry into the new politburo of radical reformer Imre Pozsgay, who has called openly for political pluralism and more democracy.

Pozsgay, head of the Patriotic People's Front of non-party orga-

nisations, is backed by dozens of independent groups and individuals, many of whom are not Communist or no longer believe in the system.

Another politburo newcomer, Rezső Nyers, began his political life as a social democrat.

This challenge to traditional Communist ideas has not gone down well in East Germany, which runs the best-functioning economy in the Soviet bloc and argues there is no need to change the system.

Western diplomats in East Berlin said that while there might be would-be reformers waiting in the wings, there were no obvious ones in the leadership.

Noting that Honecker is 75, the

same age bracket as Kadar and former Czechoslovak leader Gustav Husak, who stepped down last year, diplomats said East Europeans said there were no indications the East German leader would leave the scene.

Unlike Husak, who was known to be ailing, Honecker is reported to be in good health.

However the prospect of a radical reformist government across the border is likely to worry the ageing Prague leadership, virtually the same as the one set up after the 1968 "Prague Spring" reform was crushed by Warsaw Pact tanks.

Czechoslovakia has outlined tentative reforms, but so far has done little to push them forward.

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Armacost reports some progress towards peace

WASHINGTON (USIA) — "Tremendously intensive discussions" show some movement towards a Middle East settlement, in that Moscow recognises Israel's "security" needs, Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost said at a White House briefing Monday.

However, Armacost noted, the Kremlin still favours an international conference with "authoritative" powers, despite persistent U.S. efforts to bring about a conference that would simply facilitate face-to-face negotiations between Israel and the Arabs. The differences, he said, "are very deep. I wouldn't forecast a breakthrough" in Moscow.

He said Moscow has exhibited no interest in a second United Nations resolution imposing sanctions in the Gulf war. The United States wants such sanctions imposed on the nation which refuses a cease-fire, in this case, Iran. "There's not much prospect for movement," Armacost said.

So intensive have been the preliminary discussions of regional matters preceding this weekend's Reagan-Gorbachev summit, Armacost said, that "no great surprises" lay in store in Moscow.

Briefing reporters at the White House on prospects for the May 29-June 2 Moscow summit, Armacost said that professional U.S.-Soviet discussion of regional conflicts, exchanges which were "initially quite polemical have become rather professional. Some areas of common interest have emerged."

Armacost traced the changed atmosphere and "the evolution of our relationship" to the emergence in the Kremlin of Mikhail Gorbachev as general secretary of the Communist Party. "We've discovered since Gorbachev came to power," he said, "that the Soviets seemed interested in joining these issues in a more serious way. And as the discussion proceeded, as you got more familiar with the players... you got down to business to see whether or not there is something serious that could be discussed."

The Moscow summit, Armacost noted, is the first to follow the resolution of a regional conflict, this one the Soviet interven-

tion in Afghanistan. And while Afghanistan is unique, Armacost said some of things learned there might in time prove applicable to other local wars.

The concept of Afghan neutrality as between East and West, Armacost pointed out, may prove a signpost toward a settlement in Kampuchea, which had neutral status under the 1954 Geneva accords.

"We have begun to see," he said, "discussion of the removal of outside powers from the scene" in regional conflicts which engage the interest of the superpowers.

He said the discussion of Afghanistan would concern relocation of refugees, the methods by which the Afghans will determine their political future, and the removal of land mines to facilitate the safe return of exiles. The withdrawal of Soviet troops, he said, seems to be proceeding in accord with the stated Soviet timetable.

Armacost said U.S. supply of the Mujahadeen was proceeding in accordance with Washington's stated intention at the time the Geneva agreement was signed. The Reagan administration has said it will supply the Mujahadeen so long as Moscow supplies the Kabul regime.

Repeating the belief of other officials that progress on solving the problems of southern Africa offer summit possibilities, Armacost pointed out "an essential feature in a southern African deal would be to remove foreign powers from both Angola and Namibia."

Armacost said he expects Reagan to raise the issue of Soviet military supplies to the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua, especially now that a cease-fire is in force. He noted that such shipments are proceeding at the same rate as last year.

Armacost sees little possibility of movement on Ethiopia, where Reagan has urged the Kremlin to use its influence with the Mengistu regime to allow relief workers into war-torn provinces to avert famine. "Recent discussions," Armacost explained, "don't provide much grounds for hoping for a breakthrough. Mengistu has not been helpful, and we don't detect any signs of pressure (on him) from Moscow."

MIDEAST NEWS IN BRIEF

March into Israel postponed

CAIRO (R) — Organisers of a planned march into Israel in support of Palestinians in the occupied territories said Monday the demonstration had been indefinitely postponed. "We have decided to postpone the march to give time for more preparations," said a statement by the Egyptian National Committee in Support of the Palestinian Uprising. It said participants in the march, originally scheduled for May 27, would try to enter Israel from Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan. A new date would be fixed later, the statement said. It said messages would be delivered to the U.S. and Soviet embassies in Cairo urging President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to help achieve a just peace in the Middle East.

Police make arrests over Khartoum raids

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudanese police arrested two more foreigners Monday in connection with the attacks last week on a hotel and a club in Khartoum in which seven people were killed, the Sudan News Agency (SUNA) said. Police arrested three men carrying Lebanese passports hours after the bomb and machinegun raids on the Acropole Hotel and Sudan Club May 15. Police said the three suspects had confessed to the attacks, saying they wanted to hit U.S. and British targets. Those killed were five Britons, including two children, and two Sudanese, one of them an army officer. SUNA gave no further details of the two people arrested Monday.

Britain to question former hostages

LONDON (R) — Britain said Monday it was sending two top diplomats to Paris to ask released French hostages what they know about three British captives in Lebanon. The Foreign Office said the two would leave Wednesday to interview former hostages Jean-Paul Kauffmann, Marcel Carton and Michel Fontaine, released in Beirut earlier this month. Kauffmann has indicated the British hostages, Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite, journalist John McCarthy and Anglo-Irish teacher Brian Keenan, are alive. He told the Sunday Times newspaper that Waite, who vanished in January 1987 while on a mission to free Western hostages in Beirut, was being held in a small room. "It's hot, there's no air and no sun and it's humid. He doesn't know if it's night or day," Kauffmann said all the British hostages were at one stage in a place he referred to as a "hostage Hilton" in Beirut's mainly Shiite southern suburbs. He said they were being held in unimaginably horrible conditions.

Iran claims busting arms ring

NICOSIA (R) — Iran said Tuesday it had smashed an arms smuggling network supplying guerrillas opposed to the Tehran government, the Iranian news agency (IRNA) said. The agency said 120 members of the underground group had been detained in a roundup launched in April. IRNA said the network supplied arms to rebel units and helped draft-dodgers and other wanted persons flee Iran. Quoting police spokesman Colonel Ali-Asghar Ganjei, IRNA said the rebel network spread throughout Iran, from Khoy and Salmas near the Turkish border in the northwest to Chah-Bahar, close to the southeastern frontier with Pakistan. Ganjei told IRNA members of the group had confessed to forging visas and passports, smuggling weapons and leaflets printed by various counter-revolutionaries.

Iran wants WHO talks venue shifted

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has asked the World Health Organisation (WHO) to hold its East Mediterranean regional conference scheduled for October in Geneva instead of Tehran, the Iranian News Agency IRNA reported Monday. The agency quoted an Iranian health ministry official as saying the WHO had agreed to the proposal and Tehran reserved the right to host next year's meeting. IRNA gave no reason for the request.

Tehran names envoy to talks with France

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has named a Foreign Ministry official for talks with French officials on the restoration of diplomatic ties, the Iranian news agency (IRNA) reported Monday. The agency identified the official as Ali Ahani, director general for Western Europe in the Foreign Ministry, but did not say where or when the talks would begin. Paris said after the release early in May of the last three French hostages held by pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon that it wanted to re-establish ties with Tehran.

Turkey holds Greek fisherman

LESVOS, Greece (AP) — A Greek islander is being held in Turkey on charges of fishing illegally in Turkish waters, a coastguard spokesman on this northeastern Aegean island said Monday. The islander was identified as Christos Kassos, 51, who was arrested with his 14-year-old son Giorgos Saturday by a Turkish patrol boat and ordered to sail to the port of Ayvalik, said the spokesman. The spokesman said Kassos probably would appear before a local court in Ayvalik next week. "The Turks say he was fishing one kilometre inside their waters but you can't be sure where exactly the dividing line is when you're out there," the spokesman said. Giorgos Kassos was not charged with any offense and returned to Lesbos Monday, he said. Lesbos, also known as Mytilene, is located eight kilometres off the coast of Turkey. An unmarked median line divides the strait into Greek and Turkish territorial waters.

Greek, Turkish ministers open talks on better ties

ATHENS (R) — The Greek and Turkish foreign ministers began talks Tuesday aimed at improving relations between the uneasy North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) allies, a Greek government spokesman said.

Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz held their first session of talks at a secluded luxury beach hotel on the outskirts of Athens.

The spokesman gave no details on the hour-long meeting, which focused on the major areas of dispute between the East Mediterranean neighbours.

Heavy security measures have been imposed for Yilmaz's three-day official visit which anti-Turkish groups, opposed to efforts to foster a rapprochement, have threatened to disrupt.

After the morning session, Yilmaz was taken into central Athens for a 40-minute meeting with Greek President Christos Sartzetakis at the presidential palace near Constitution Square and the Royal Gardens — both popular tourist spots.

Scores of Greek-Cypriot demonstrators carrying banners and chanting anti-Turkish slogans gathered nearby but were kept away by police.

Violent protests marred a visit by Istanbul mayor Bedrettin Dalan last month and a left-wing Greek guerrilla group bombed the cars of two Turkish diplomats in Athens Monday. No one was injured. Two other bombs were defused.

Some 3,500 police and security forces have been called out to ensure Yilmaz's safety.

The Yilmaz and Dalan visits are part of a peace initiative launched by prime ministers Andreas Papandreu of Greece and Turgut Ozal of Turkey in Davos, Switzerland, in January.

Yilmaz and Papoulias will preside over several sessions of a joint ministerial-level committee set up by Papandreu and Ozal in Davos.

The committee has been charged with discussing issues which have caused deep animosity and mistrust between the countries and brought them close to war on several occasions in recent years.

The issues include mineral and territorial rights in the Aegean Sea, the Turkish military occupation of northern Cyprus and the Turkish quest for membership in the European Economic Community trading bloc — where Athens has a veto.

Mahdi offers peace plan to rebel leader

KHARTOUM (AP) — Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi says he has presented Sudan's southern rebels with a peace proposal to end the five-year civil war.

In an interview with the weekly Al Ashiqa published Tuesday, Mahdi said he outlined the peace plan in a message to John Garang, leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

He gave no details of the plan, saying only that it was conveyed by his Foreign Minister Hussein Suleiman Abu Saleh.

Abu Saleh currently is in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa for a meeting of the ministerial council of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). He met Monday with Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam, whom Sudan repeatedly has charged with backing the southern rebellion.

It was not clear whether Mahdi's message to Garang was given to Mengistu for relay or was delivered in some other way. Garang is known to have a base

of operations inside neighbouring Ethiopia.

Mahdi told the weekly Al Ashiqa that he would be prepared to meet with Garang if the rebel leader responded favourably to the peace proposal.

Mahdi, due in Addis Ababa for an OAU summit opening Wednesday, said he also would hold talks with Mengistu on bilateral relations.

Since Mahdi took office in 1986, his government has held several rounds of preliminary peace talks with the SPLA in Britain and Ethiopia but all failed.

The SPLA, at war with the central government in Khartoum over economic and other reforms in the south, controls most of the southern countryside while large towns are in government hands.

Darawshe urges Jews to seek Israeli moderation

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Arab member of Israel's parliament urged American Jews to join American Arabs in opposing the Israeli government's hostile policy towards the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"The Arab community in the (United) States and the Jewish community (in the U.S.) have a common interest as peace lovers, and I'm waiting for the Jewish community here to play a positive role convincing the Israeli government to adopt a more reasonable policy towards the Palestine issue," Abdul Wahab Darawshe said Monday.

Darawshe, a Knesset member who recently quit the Israeli Labour Party to found a new Arab party in Israel, made the statement at the 16th convention of the National Association of Arab-Americans.

The association, which seeks a

stronger political voice for Americans of Arab ancestry, used

"Campaigning for Peace" as the theme of the annual convention. Speakers condemned Israeli measures against Palestinian demonstrations in the occupied territories during the past six months and urged the United States and Israel to accept the PLO as the authentic Palestinian representative in peace talks.

The Palestinian people have decided who is their representative and any attempt to find alternatives is just wasting time and bringing causes for more bloodshed," Darawshe said. He also said the PLO should formally proclaim a Palestinian government in exile.

Israel and the United States refuse to deal with the PLO. Invitations to Monday's session said an unnamed, prominent Israeli official would appear, and

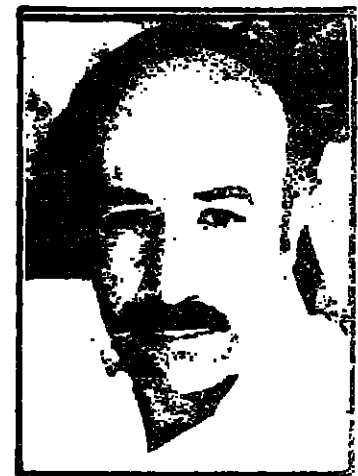
an empty chair at the head table symbolised the official's absence.

Hanna Siniara, editor of Al Fajr in Jerusalem, told the gathering "it is high time to have the international community and the United States bring the adversaries to the negotiating table," because "the alternative is disaster to the whole area... with national suicide for all parties in the region. Israelis, Palestinians, Arabs."

"The obstacle to peace is the attitude of the present coalition government of Israel," he said.

Message to Shamir

In another development, 30 members of Congress, mostly Democrats, sent Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir a letter urging him to reconsider the pending expulsion of Mubarak Awad, a naturalised U.S. citizen of Palestinian birth who founded



Abdul Wahab Darawshe

the Palestinian Centre for the Study of Non-Violence.

"The recent violence in the occupied territories highlights the urgent need to renounce violence and 'now, more than ever, the philosophy espoused by Mr. Awad will be necessary if Israel is to enjoy a more secure and peaceful future,'" said the letter, circulated by the National Association of Arab-Americans.

Israeli soldiers open fire on UNIFIL troops

TEL AVIV (R) — Norwegian United Nations peacekeeping forces in southern Lebanon have been fired on by Israeli troops, a U.N. forces spokesman said Tuesday.

Timor Goksel, spokesman for the United Nations Truce Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), said Israeli artillery shot "for no justifiable reason" at an armoured personnel carrier and into a Norwegian U.N. checkpoint Sunday night near the Ibi Al Saki village close to Marjayoun.

There were no casualties, Goksel said.

"Both the checkpoint and the vehicle are marked, of course, we have only white vehicles, so there was no reason, no justification for the shooting," he said.

The Israeli troops, shooting from an artillery position ignored red warning flashes shot by the Norwegian forces, he added.

The Israeli army conceded that its troops may have "unintentionally" shot at UNIFIL in

Lebanon. Goksel said it was not the first time Israeli troops had shot at U.N. forces, but Sunday's incident was more serious than most.

Villagers expelled

In another development, Israel expelled 15 Lebanese villagers from its self-declared South Lebanon "security zone" Tuesday for refusing to join an Israeli-backed militia, security sources said.

The sources said the expulsions were the first since Israel set-up the buffer zone in 1985.

Mohamad Selim Al Zouhairi, one of the 15 expelled to Rashaya, in the Bekaa Valley, said the action was taken because the men refused to join Israel's ally the South Lebanon Army (SLA).

The security sources said the SLA had wanted to establish a unit in the Shebaa and Arqoub districts of the "security zone."

Jordan celebrates Independence Day today

(Continued from page 1)

Arab Nation. On the occasion of Independence Day, ceremonies will be held in all parts of the country, which have been bedecked with flags, the King's portraits and decorative signs.

One of the highlights of the day is the inauguration of the traffic interchanges at the

Sports City and the Ministry of Interior Circle. A statement issued by the Greater Amman Municipal Council said the interchanges would be opened for traffic from 9 p.m. Wednesday.

The project, which took 30 months to complete, is bound to facilitate the flow of traffic to five important directions in the capital.

In addition, the municipal

Dakhqan: Water safe and clean

(Continued from page 1)

maintained close coordination with the Ministry of Health, which also drew samples and analysed them at its laboratories. The results of the tests were identical with those undertaken at the Water Authority labs, he said.

The findings showed that water samples were free from any germs such as salmonella, shigella, cholera, ameba, he said.

Tuesday's press conference followed a visit Monday by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai to the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, where he was assured by Dakhqan that there was no problem whatsoever related to the water situation.

Also speaking at Tuesday's press conference was the Ministry

of Health secretary general, who pointed out that cases of poisoning and diarrhoea usually occur during the end of Ramadan and the beginning of Eid Al Fitr because people eat foodstuffs bought from the street.

The conference was attended by Information Minister Hani Khasawneh and information officials, the secretaries general of the Water and Irrigation Ministry and Health Ministry.

Khasawneh, who organised the press conference, said in a brief address that such gatherings which aim at briefing citizens on the facts of situation through the information institution were a healthy phenomenon. The minister said the government was keenly interested in ensuring safe and clean water to the public and gives special attention to issues related to water supply.

council will also open two public gardens in Amman to mark Independence Day, a municipal statement said.

Minister of Tourism Zuhair Ajlouni said a decision has been made to cut by 30 per cent the prices of food, drinks, and other services at the Zarqa Ma'in spa complex on the eve of Independence Day. He said that other measures would be adopted soon to encourage domestic tourism and enable the public to visit archaeological, tourist sites and spas in the Kingdom.

On the occasion of Independence Day, King Hussein received congratulatory cables from Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House Speaker Akel Al Fayed, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Al Shaker, Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mohammad Muhallan, the directors of the Civil Defence, General Intelligence and Public Security departments and representatives of professional unions.

Hizbollah gains ground amid deadlock

(Continued from page 1)

days ago remained in combat positions.

It was not immediately known what triggered the fresh fighting which shattered a ceasefire de-

Settlers, protesters clash

(Continued from page 1)

this week when the Israeli army opened schools closed since February.

The underground leadership of the uprising gave their approval to the students' return, and in its 17th communique called on others to give students books and notebooks.

"Everybody can claim victory," said Daoud Kuttab, a leading Palestinian commentator. "The Israelis were interested in things going back to normal, but Palestinians consider it a victory, because it is a victory over the (Israeli) policy of keeping them ignorant," he told Reuters.

A spokesman for the Israeli army's "civil administration" branch said the response to schools' reopening was "a very good sign. We take this in a very positive way."

clared Monday, the ninth brocked by Syria and Iran. On Sunday, Damascus rejected an Iranian suggestion to send a joint peace-keeping force into the suburbs.

<p>RESTAURANT CHINA</p> <p>The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan</p> <p>1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Alhijyah Girls School</p> <p>Take away is available</p> <p>Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.</p> <p>6:30-Midnight</p> <p>Tel. 638968</p>	<p>慕堂餐廳</p> <p>MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant</p> <p>The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman.</p> <p>Chinese Flaming pot is available</p> <p>Take away available</p> <p>Open daily 12:00 - 15:30</p> <p>18:00 - 23:30</p> <p>Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic Bridge</p> <p>Amman, Jordan</p> <p>Tel: 661922</p>	<p>CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT</p> <p>Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket</p> <p>Mongolian Barbecue for Lunch Friday only</p> <p>Tel: 818214</p> <p>Come and taste our specialties</p> <p>Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>6:30 - Midnight</p>	<p>CHINESE RESTAURANT</p> <p>TAIWAN TOURISMO</p> <p>Authentic Chinese Food</p> <p>Korean Bar-B-Q</p> <p>Charcoal Flaming Pot</p> <p>Take-away service</p> <p>Open daily Noon - 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>& 6:30 p.m. - midnight</p> <p>Location: Near 3rd Circle opposite Aklah Hospital</p> <p>Tel: 641093</p>
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UAE bank profits show recovery

million worth of high-class perfumes. But when dock workers prised open lids, they found just a few thousand dollars worth of nappies. The bank which innocently financed the bogus trade deal was left holding the baby.

That incident was a couple of years ago, but banks in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are still dogged by bad debts left over from the oil boom years, some caused by fraud and others by a Gulf-wide recession.

Bank profits in the seven-emirate federation are slowly recovering after a slump in 1985 and a lean 1986. But results for 1987 were patchy and some bankers say it is too early to predict a strong upturn this year.

"There certainly is a bullish attitude in the banking sector now," said Robin Cutts, assistant general manager operations at Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank (ADCB), formed in 1985 by a merger of three local banks.

"The prevailing response is that we have our problems behind us... but I don't submit to that view and would prefer to say they are under control," he told Reuters.

Banks in the UAE, widely seen as one of the most overbanked nations in the Middle East, have largely escaped problems of Latin American debt which plagued their counterparts in Bahrain.

The origins of the UAE banks' debt crisis have been closer to home.

Local contractors were often unable to repay loans because

they had not been paid by government departments starved of oil revenue. And some merchant trading families, such as the Dubai-based Galadari Brothers, were overextended when oil prices crashed in 1986 and the economy shrank.

Confidence has gradually returned with higher oil prices and, after adjustment for inflation, the UAE economy grew by about three per cent last year.

Value of dirham drops

But the recovery has been dampened by a decline in the value of the dirham caused by its fixed peg to the weak U.S. dollar. That has made salaries less attractive for many expatriate bankers and some banks are finding it hard to recruit skilled staff, particularly from Britain due to the strong pound.

The banking sector in Dubai, renowned as hub of Gulf trade, appears to be flourishing more than in its southern rival Abu Dhabi, which is the national capital.

"For Dubai, 1985 and 1986 was the trough," said Charles Neil, general manager of Lloyds Bank in Dubai. "Since then, there has been a gradual recovery."

That recovery has seen a steady rise in net profits for most banks in Dubai, with the biggest, the

National Bank of Dubai Ltd, by far the most profitable.

It declared a 0.6 per cent rise in 1987 net profit to 377.2 million dirhams (\$103 million).

But bankers see the bank as mainly a "cashbox" for the local government and its end-1987 balance sheet showed only seven per cent of assets in the form of loans and advances.

Other Dubai banks are more exposed to bad debts, especially Union Bank of the Middle East Ltd (UBME), once owned by one of the Galadari Brothers, Abdul Wahab Galadari. It also merged with two local banks in 1985.

As if to emphasise its break with the past, UBME this week announced a new name, Emirates Bank International Ltd.

The group increased net profit by 38.9 per cent to 31.4 million dirhams (\$8.6 million) last year, but bankers say it relies heavily on about 1.5 billion dirhams (\$410 million) of cheap deposits from Dubai's ruling Maktoum family.

The bank is working flat out to recover bad loans and is embroiled in a court case with the Galadari Brothers group for repayment of 401 million dirhams (\$110 million).

Bank of Oman Ltd, which despite its name is a Dubai-based group, increased 1987 net profit by 18.8 per cent to 65.3 million dirhams (\$17.8 million) and has been aggressive in cashing in on a mini consumer credit boom.

The two big banks in Abu Dhabi, ADCB and the National

Bank of Abu Dhabi (NBAD), are due to publish 1987 results soon.

Relying on aid

Like UBME, the merged ADCB group relies heavily on official aid, with 1.3 billion dirhams (\$355 million) of free deposits from Abu Dhabi and one billion dirhams (\$270 million) at two per cent interest via the central bank.

The bank is expected to declare its first profit when 1987 figures are released.

Cutts said: "The bank is in very good shape... everybody had dire predictions about our ability to turn in any profit at all. Clearly government support is a key factor in that we can fund non-performing loans and get on with other business."

Some bankers expect NBAD will make large provisions in 1987 accounts for Latin American debt, one of the few UAE banks facing the problem.

Sharjah suffers

The UAE's third banking centre, Sharjah, suffered a blow to confidence after a failed coup last June which pitted two brothers against each other. Bankers say Sharjah is spending almost all its income from oil and gas to service a heavy debt burden which this year will cost \$230.8 million.

But the emirate's biggest bank, the National Bank of Sharjah, increased 1987 net profit 12.4 per cent to 22.7 million dirhams (\$6.2 million).

U.S. Exim Bank loses record \$461 million

WASHINGTON (R) — The government agency that assists U.S. exports said Monday that it lost a record \$460.9 million in 1987 and warned that its financial condition would remain bleak for several years to come.

In its annual report for the year ended Sept. 30, 1987, the Export-Import Bank of the United States said the loss had depleted its reserve for contingencies and defaults to just \$312 million from \$773 million in 1986.

The loss in fiscal 1986 was \$332.9 million.

The Exim Bank finances U.S. exports through an array of loans, guarantees and insurance programmes. It estimates that it has supported nearly \$200 billion in exports in 54 years at a cost of no more than \$3 billion.

The agency has lost between \$250 million and \$300 million a year since 1982 because it made low-interest loans in the late 1970s to match subsidised credits being offered by other Western

governments.

Member countries of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, a club of 24 rich countries, agreed in 1982 to limit loan subsidies, but Exim Bank said it was still feeling the pinch of the credit war.

As of Sept. 30, the bank was paying an average interest rate of 11.47 per cent for the money it borrowed and receiving just 8.86 per cent on its \$11.21 billion loan portfolio.

Although the bank has acted to improve the yield on new loans by assessing a one-time exposure fee, it said its interest spread would remain negative at least through 1992.

"The lengthy repayment period for the loans made in the 1970s and the limited volume of

more recent loans with positive spreads will prevent us from reversing our negative position for a very long time," Exim Chairman John Bohn said in an introduction to the annual report.

Because the bank can borrow unlimited amounts from the U.S. Treasury, it can continue to finance exports even if future losses wipe out its reserves.

B.A., Virgin cut air fares

LONDON (R) — British Airways (B.A.) and Virgin Atlantic Airways launched a summer price war Monday when they cut Trans-Atlantic fares in a move to boost sales.

A B.A. spokeswoman said the stand-by fare to U.S. west coast destinations such as Los Angeles and San Francisco was being cut by £90 (£168) to £199 pounds (\$372) each way.

Fares to New York and Boston were being cut to £159 (£297) from £199 (\$372), and the Miami fare was being reduced by £40 (\$75) to £219 pounds (\$409). Tickets to 13 other destinations would also be cut.

"We want to attract more pas-

sengers on our bigger network to the U.S.," the spokeswoman said.

A spokesman for Virgin Atlantic, the cut-rate flights brainchild of millionaire businessman Richard Branson, said it had introduced single stand-by fares of £149 (\$278) to Newark, near New York, and £169 (\$315) to Miami.

"We won't be more expensive than B.A. We will always offer more competitive fares and more style," Marketing General Manager Chris Moss told Reuters.

The new Newark fare represents a substantial saving on Virgin's summertime lowest bookable fare of £185 (\$345). The current Miami fare is £179 (\$334).

General Insurance Co. posts higher net profit

By Shafi Nicholas
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The General Insurance Company earned a net profit of JD 63,291 during 1987 compared to JD 44,245 during the previous year. However, the company will not distribute any dividends, according to the profit and loss statement of the company.

The insurance business earned the company JD 38,053, nearly

treble the amount of 1986 but the earnings were boosted by JD 28,453 and JD 25,943 being profit on sale of investment shares and return on other investments respectively.

The total assets/liabilities of the company at the end of 1987 stood at JD 1,674,144 compared to JD 1,474,272 at the end of 1986. Receivables soared from JD 288,566 to JD 683,102.

The capital of the company is JD 600,000 fully paid up.

Japan retains top spot as biggest creditor nation

TOKYO (R) — Japan's holdings of overseas assets shot to over \$1,000 billion last year, as the country retained the top spot as the world's number one creditor nation, government officials said Tuesday.

"As long as Japan has a surplus in trade in goods and services, it will continue to add to its overseas assets," one official told reporters.

Government figures show that Japan's overseas assets climbed more than \$300 billion in 1987 as the country's big investors stepped up their buying of foreign stocks and bonds.

Japan's foreign debts also rose steeply, by more than \$250 billion, as companies took advantage of looser regulations overseas to raise money abroad.

The balance between the two, which determines which country is the world's top creditor nation, shows that Japan added \$60 billion to its net foreign assets last year, bringing the cumulative total to more than \$240 billion.

Although 1987 figures for other countries are not yet available, the officials said they were convinced that Japan remained comfortably in the lead as the world's top creditor nation last year.

Economists said Britain probably remained in second place in 1987. By the end of 1986, it had racked up \$170 billion in overseas credits.

In contrast, the world's biggest debtor nation, the United States, added to its record \$265 billion in overseas debts last year, they said.

Study foresees massive change in U.S. industry

WASHINGTON (AP) — After a four-year study on new technologies, the government has concluded that the next two decades will be a time of massive change in which virtually every U.S. product, service and job will be reshaped.

The study, done by the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment and released Saturday, said that Americans in the 21st century should enjoy longer, more productive lives than any preceding generation.

The study said that emerging technologies should offer the opportunity to expand educational opportunities, extend life and reduce sickness and make work more rewarding by using machines for tedious, repetitive jobs.

But the study warned that rapid change also threatens to "shake the foundations of the most secure American businesses."

"With each opportunity for progress, there are opportunities for serious misstep," the study said. "Change can create an America in graceless decline, its living standards falling behind those of other world powers."

The report is titled "Technology and the American Economic Transition." Eight congressional committees ordered researchers to take an in-depth look at the forces now at work on society and the implications were for policy-makers.

"We know that we are moving away from an economy heavily dependent on raw materials, where most businesses were isolated from international trade," said project director Henry Kelly.

As one example of how change has already reshaped the country, the study said that the number of lawyers, bankers, scientists and accountants needed to supply Americans with food was now roughly equal to the number of farmers.

In fact, only four out of every 100 jobs in food production is on the farm. More than half of the jobs in food production now are held by sales people, precision craftsmen, managers and data entry clerks.

The study said that for the country to take full advantage of

emerging technologies, Congress should consider making fundamental changes in its tax laws and various government regulations.

"Regulations designed to protect consumers... may have outlived their usefulness in areas ranging from banking to housing to electric utilities," the study said.

In the tax area, the study urged reducing or abolishing the tax on capital gains and reforming or abolishing the corporate income tax.

The report said these taxes reduce needed investment to boost U.S. productivity.

The study also said that the deduction for housing interest should be limited to a fixed amount because it made little sense to encourage investment savings in the form of home purchases but not permit the complete deductibility of educational expenses because this discouraged investment in human capital.

Among the report's predictions about the future:

— New technologies for collecting, storing and manipulating information have the potential to revolutionise the economy. Businesses are already spending 40 per cent of their investment dollar on computers and other "information" machines, double the 1978 share.

— Increased foreign competition was inevitable with the post-World War II recovery of Japan and Western Europe and the emergence of sophisticated production in places like Korea and Taiwan.

Undisputed U.S. economic leadership may be lost, but the change does not necessarily mean that U.S. living standards will decline. Living standards in Britain rose steadily for a century after it lost its dominant position in the world economy.

— Consolidation of farm ownership is likely to continue so that by the year 2000, the 14 per cent of farms with annual sales higher than \$250,000 will account for between 80 per cent and 90 per cent of total sales.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for May 24, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	550895	JD 419934	639

Top three companies:

Jordan Cement	39465	JD 44901	53
Petra Leasing and Equipment	217918	JD 43150	103
Intermediate Petrochemicals	27100	JD 36128	63

Parallel market:	57700	JD 29511	—
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Development bonds:	5	JD 563	—
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Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
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Other debentures:	—	—	—
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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.8710/20	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2405/15	Canadian dollar
	1.6991/96	Deutsche marks
	1.9018/28	Dutch guilders
	1.4160/70	Swiss francs
	35.40/45	Belgian francs
	5.7400/30	French francs
	1261/1262	Italian lire
	124.10/20	Japanese yen
	5.9050/9100	Swedish crowns
	6.1780/1830	Norwegian crowns
	6.4720/70	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	459.10/459.60	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Strong gains by leading gold stocks and selected industrials pushed the market to a firmer close. The All Ordinaries Index closed 8.2 higher at 1,469.7.

TOKYO — Shares closed higher due to renewed buying in large capital issues, mainly on the part of investment trusts. The Nikkei Index gained 62.90 to 27,312.66.

HONG KONG — Prices rose in active afternoon trading and the Hang Seng Index gained 25.95 to 2,516.18.

SINGAPORE — Prices were barely changed and closed mixed after quiet and lacklustre trading. The Straits Times Industrial Index was up 0.99 at 957.02.

BOMBAY — Prices fell on renewed speculative selling as investors preferred to reduce outstanding positions.

FRANKFURT — The market closed easier after dull trade. Most operators were sidelined in view of Monday's Wall Street decline and worries about a rise in U.S. interest rates. Commerzbank's 60-share index, calculated at mid-session, was down 1.7 at 1,325.7.

ZURICH — Prices were easier across the board in very quiet trading after the Whitsun holiday weekend. The All-Share Swiss index lost 4.7 to 800 exactly.

PARIS — Prices were fractionally higher on very thin volume after the Whitsun holiday weekend. The 50-share bourse indicator rose by 0.50 per cent.

LONDON — Prices ended near the day's highs, helped by Wall Street's opening rise, but trading was sluggish. At 1418 GMT the FTSE 100 index was up 11.4 at 1,772.7.

NEW YORK — Stocks were slightly higher with blue chips making small gains in light trading. The Dow rose eight to 1,949.

Jackson unveils budget with \$373b in new taxes

WASHINGTON (R) — Underdog Democratic presidential candidate Jesse Jackson Monday unveiled a government budget that would freeze military spending and impose \$373 billion of new taxes over five years.

Jackson's plan would seek more defence burden-sharing by U.S. allies and increase domestic spending by about \$343 billion over five years.

The plan envisages cutting a projected 1989 federal budget deficit of about \$176 billion to \$49 billion by 1993 through the defence spending freeze and higher income taxes on corporations and individuals, especially wealthy ones.

It would increase spending for education, job training, child care, drug enforcement and other social programmes.

Jackson made the plan public in a statement issued in Washington and in Sacramento, California, where he is campaigning.

The black civil rights leader is waging an uphill battle against Michael Dukakis, front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Jackson has been prodding Dukakis to make public a budget but his rival has refused to spell out major details.

Vice President George Bush, who has the Republican presidential nomination sewn up, has not outlined a budget either but has vowed not to raise taxes and said his top priority would be to reduce spending.

A principal feature of the Jackson plan is a redirection of tax policy to make wealthier individuals and corporations pay more taxes, a proposal he has been stressing in his campaign.

"Americans support fair taxes — those who benefitted from the Reagan-Bush economic irresponsibilities should pay for the party," he said in a statement accompanying his budget.

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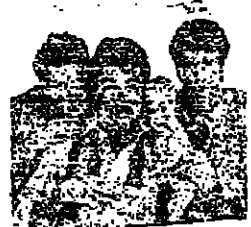
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THE BEACH
GIRLS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Grasshopper Zurich stroll to Swiss Cup win

BERNE (R) — Grasshopper Zurich, appearing in their 24th Swiss Cup soccer final, won it for the 15th time when they beat second division Schaffhausen 2-0 Monday. Christian Matthey volleyed them ahead in the 31st minute from a cross by Swedish international striker Mats Gren. Brazilian Paulo Cesar scored the second in the 58th minute after a fine solo run. Schaffhausen had eliminated three first division sides on the way to the final, including holders Young Boys, but failed to become the first team from the second division to win the trophy.

Juventus clinches UEFA Cup place

TURIN, Italy (R) — Ian Rush scored the vital goal in a penalty shoot-out against Torino Monday night to clinch a UEFA Cup place for Juventus. The match, to decide the final Italian place in next season's competition, was scoreless after extra time. When Rush took his spot kick Juventus were 3-2 ahead because Torino's Antonio Comi missed his shot. The Welsh international's goal settled the issue 4-2. The UEFA Cup vacancy was created when Sampdoria won the Italian Cup and qualified for the European Cup Winners' Cup.

Pele has three favourites for European crown

NANCY, France (R) — Hosts West Germany, Italy and England are Pele's favourites for next month's European Soccer Championship. The Brazilian, in Nancy Monday to kick off a charity match between a French selection and a rest of the world team, said: "I know England are in really good shape at the moment. Italy will also be fielding a strong team." But he added: "When you are at home as the Germans are, it's always difficult for other teams."

Platini brings world's best together

NANCY, France (R) — Michel Platini brought some of the world's top footballers to the eastern French city of Nancy Monday for a light-hearted match to benefit a drugs foundation he runs. A capacity 40,000 crowd saw Argentine Diego Maradona, Mexican Hugo Sanchez, Pole Zbigniew Boniek and other leading names play for a rest of the world team against a French selection squad captained by Platini, who retired last year. The match was drawn 2-2.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND CINDY STARR
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NO WAY TO GO WRONG

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K J 8
♥ A Q 3
♦ 7 4 2
♣ K Q 9 6

EAST
♠ A Q 9 7 5 4
♥ 9 8
♦ 10 9 8 3
♣ K 5

SOUTH
♠ 10 6 3 2
♥ 7 4 2
♦ K J 5
♣ A 8 7 5 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 NT 3 ♠
4 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ 6 ♠
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠
Let's assume that you are playing in an expert game, and you reach six clubs via the auction shown. North showed nice appreciation of his excellent club support and heart values, which were to be most useful in light of your cue-bid of East's spades. After you ruff the opening lead and both opponents follow when you lead a trump to the queen, about how long do you think it should take you to play the slam? Two minutes? Five minutes? More? Surprisingly enough, the answer is that the hand is over. You should

claim your contract and expert defenders would concede. Regardless of the distribution, you cannot be defeated!

Should one of the defenders require an explanation, announce that you intend ruffing another spade, then drawing the last trump by crossing to dummy with the king. After ruffing the table's last spade, you will cash the ace-queen of hearts and then continue with dummy's last heart.

As the cards lie, East shows out; so you rise with the king and throw West in with the last heart as you discard a diamond from the board instead of ruffing. West must either yield a ruff-shift, allowing you to get rid of another diamond from dummy, or else lead into your diamond tenace. In either case, you make the rest of the tricks.

What if East follows to the third heart. You will finesse the ten! If that wins, you can discard a diamond on the king of hearts and you are on a diamond finesse for an overtrick. If the finesse loses to West, he is end played exactly as above. No matter what he returns, you will be able to get rid of one of the table's diamond losers, and the other will go on the king of hearts.

'Cup final serves as maiden security test'

STUTTGART, West Germany (R) — As well as being the continent's showpiece watch for club soccer, the European Cup final Wednesday gives the organizers of next month's Nations' Championship the chance to test their security.

The presence of Dutch side PSV Eindhoven in the final at Stuttgart's Neckar stadium is of particular significance.

Some 30,000 Dutch fans are expected for PSV's match with Benfica. Their behaviour will be closely monitored as a forerunner of the clash between The Netherlands and England on June 15 in Dusseldorf, long marked down as the game most likely to produce crowd violence during the European Championship.

"The fans from England and the followers of the Dutch team have a particularly bad reputation," said Wilhelm Hennes, the member of the European Championship's organising committee responsible for security.

"We've taken all precautions to prevent clashes, especially at this match."

Hennes and the police will not reveal all the security measures lined up for the championship. But about 1,000 police will be on duty for Wednesday's game, the local force being helped not only by security experts from the federal government but also by officers from The Netherlands' special anti-hooligan squad whose job includes identifying and dealing with known trouble-makers at soccer matches.

That the problem of hooliganism is not entirely foreign to West Germany was demonstrated in Stuttgart last weekend.

Around 50 supporters of first division team Waldhof Mannheim ran amok in the city centre, throwing bottles and firecrackers, after their side drew with Stuttgart in their final league match and were left facing a relegation playoff.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carol Rhyler Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: There will seem to be obstacles in your way no matter which way you turn today, but be patient and muddle through. Remember that a little smile can usually disarm even the most difficult situations.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Be conscientious and efficient in your work today. If a fellow worker is in a poor humor, avoid an argument and try to be understanding.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): It is important that you find a way to relieve some of the stress you have been under lately. Work on improving your appearance tonight.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): This is not a good day to invite guests into your home, as they would only make matters worse. Avoid any arguments today.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): If you hear that a good friend has been critical of you, don't believe it until you get the facts straight from the horse's mouth.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Instead of wringing your hands over a troubling financial or property matter, get some advice from an expert and solve the problem sensibly.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): Get your social life in better order so you can meet more charming

people. Ask a friend for help in handling a difficult problem.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Take some time to handle small personal tasks today. Get plenty of rest tonight, as you have a very busy day ahead of you tomorrow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Stay away from group affairs that could tax your nerves and ruin your mood today. You would be wise to stay at home and relax tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Be very careful in the handling of business affairs, and safeguard your career and credit. Be sure to do what is expected of you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): You are anxious for a change of scenery, but don't neglect to keep a promise you have made. Don't follow any long-shot hunches.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): Many bad situations could arise if you criticize and argue today, so keep silent for best results. Your mate may be in a strange mood.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Wait a few days to have that talk with a partner, and avoid an unpleasant confrontation. Avoid an amoral acquaintance this evening.

BASEBALL STANDINGS

NEW YORK (AP) — Major league baseball standings after Monday games:

	American League			GB
	W	L	Pct.	
New York	28	14	.667	—
Detroit	26	15	.634	1.5
Cleveland	27	16	.628	1.5
Boston	22	18	.550	5
Milwaukee	22	20	.524	6
Toronto	18	25	.419	10.5
Baltimore	9	34	.209	19.5

West Division				
Oakland	29	14	.674	—
Texas	21	20	.512	7
Kansas City	20	23	.465	9
Minnesota	19	22	.463	9
Chicago	19	23	.452	9.5
Seattle	19	25	.432	10.5
California	17	27	.386	12.5

Monday's games
Chicago 3, Cleveland 2
Minnesota 7, Kansas City 5
Milwaukee 9, Toronto 7
Seattle 14, Boston 3
New York 5, California 2
Baltimore 7, Oakland 3

National League				
East Division				
New York	30	11	.732	—
Pittsburgh	25	18	.581	6
St. Louis	21	22	.488	10
Chicago	20	21	.488	10
Montreal	18	22	.450	11.5
Philadelphia	15	24	.385	14

West Division				
Houston	25	16	.610	—
Los Angeles	22	17	.564	2
Cincinnati	22	21	.512	4
San Francisco	22	21	.512	4
San Diego	15	27	.357	10.5
Atlanta	12	27	.308	12

Monday's Games
Atlanta at Chicago, PPD., rain
Houston 3, Pittsburgh 0, 8½ innings
Cincinnati 8, St. Louis 3

Lakers grab NBA Western Conference finals

INGLEWOOD, California (AP) — James Worthy scored 28 points and Byron Scott 23 as the Los Angeles Lakers turned back a second-quarter Dallas rally and beat the Mavericks 113-98 Monday night in game 1 of the National Basketball Association (NBA) Western Conference finals.

Magic Johnson added 19, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar 17 and A.C. Green 14 for the defending champion Lakers, who led 52-49 at halftime.

Mark Aguirre, Rolando Blackman and Roy Tarpley scored 18 apiece for the Mavericks, and Derek Harper added 17.

Game 2 is set for Wednesday night in Inglewood. The series then shifts to Dallas' reunion arena for games Friday and Sunday.

The Lakers took a 41-32 lead on Michael Cooper's 3-point shot with 9:45 to play in the second quarter. But Dallas — led by Tarpley, Aguirre and Blackman — went on a 15-1 run capped by Blackman's long jumper at 4:22 to take a 47-42 lead.

The Lakers missed nine straight field goals before Abdul-Jabbar hit a sky hook at 3:53 of the second quarter to start an 8-0 run that gave the Lakers a 50-47 lead.

Los Angeles got its running game going in the third quarter and sprinted to a 76-63 lead with 2:29 left as Worthy, Scott and Green made three baskets apiece. Two of Scott's baskets were 3-pointers.

Worthy and Green each scored again, and the Lakers led 80-69 at the end of the period.

Budd: Heart decided return to S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Zola Budd says she turned to her heart for the decision to suspend an international athletics career and return to her native South Africa.

"It wasn't political pressure or the unfair criticism that made me decide to come back to South Africa," she told the South African magazine *Yona*. "For once I set athletics aside and let my heart do the talking."

After four years of pressure from anti-apartheid activists since she took up British citizenship to escape her country's sports isolation, Budd flew unexpectedly on May 10 to her home town of Bloemfontein in Orange Free State Province.

British athletics officials have suspended Budd until she appears before an inquiry committee considering an International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) request to ban her for a year because of her involvement in athletics meetings in South Africa.

Big names sail through French Open 1st round comfortably

PARIS (R) — A record crowd at the \$4 million French Open Championships may have wondered if they were watching an opening day of exhibition tennis, so easily did the big names sail through the first round Monday.

John McEnroe, Steffi Graf, Mats Wilander, Yannick Noah and Boris Becker all progressed without losing a set before a crowd of almost 30,000 at Roland Garros, who were granted the bonus of a French victory in the only major upset of the day.

Catherine Tanvier's 6-4, 7-5 win over 11th seed Katerina Maleeva in the women's singles produced the only seeding upset as the stars turned their attention to adapting to the clay courts before the tougher rounds ahead.

McEnroe, seeking to remove the blot on his own remarkable career by winning the major title which has always eluded him, had a 7-6, 6-1, 7-6 victory over Alexander Volkov of the Soviet Union, a dangerous player on clay who is ranked 65 in the world.

The former world number one was a break down in the first set and playing listlessly until an over-enthusiastic line judge faulted the American before he had even served.

"A turning point"

McEnroe, a first-round loser in Paris to Argentina's Horacio de la Pena last year, was suddenly galvanised into action. "This could be the turning point of the match — you woke me up," he shouted at the hapless official.

But the American refused to let himself become upset by bad calls, basking in the warm reception he received from a crowd anxious to see his artistry continue to grace the courts.

He arrived to a standing ovation, giving the crowd a coy thumbs up sign, and left to wild cheering, holding his arms aloft in victory.

It was an unusual greeting for the player most fans normally love to hate. "It's nice to come here and get a really good response," he said. "The more I use that to my advantage — it's new to me — the better it will be for me."

Seeded only 16, McEnroe gives himself little chance of winning the title. "But I've got nothing to lose — and stranger things have happened," he said.

Graf, who won her first Grand Slam title here last year with a victory over Martina Navratilova, started the defence of her crown with a 6-0, 6-4 win over French wild card entry Nathalie Guerin in a match marked mainly for the champion's loss of concentration in the second set, a luxury she will not be able to allow herself when the serious business starts.

Noah beats Osterthun

Noah, the Frenchman who sent the entire nation into ecstasy with his victory at Roland Garros in 1983, ended the resistance of West German Ricki Osterthun in a first set tie-break and went on

to delight the fans with a 7-6, 6-1, 6-4 win.

Wilander, last year's losing finalist and leading a strong Swedish challenge for the title he won in 1982 and 1985, was not too troubled by Josef Chlak of Czechoslovakia in a 7-5, 7-5, 6-1 baseline exchange.

The seeds may have had things their own way but it was not such a good day for the 1986 losing finalist Mikael Pernfors of Sweden.

Since abandoning the distinctive crewcut he sported in the tournament two years ago, he has also lost his winning ways and was eliminated in straight sets by Luiz Mattar of Brazil.

"Becker in right form"

Becker put his indifferent claycourt form behind him Tuesday with an impressive straight sets win over Claudio Mezzadri of Switzerland in the first round of the French Open.

The West German did enough in his 6-4, 6-2, 7-5 to win to offer evidence that the critics who say his power game cannot be adapted to slow clay surfaces may not be entirely right.

Mezzadri was as stern a test as the former Wimbledon champion could have faced in the first round. Ranked 35 in the world, he is a noted exponent of the art of baseline rallies on which success on clay is normally founded.

Becker lost his opening match at two recent claycourt tournaments in Monte Carlo and Rome but he always maintained things would be different in Paris, the event he badly wants to win to prove that he is an all-round champion and not just a star on the grass of Wimbledon.

From the start against Mezzadri, it was clear that he was right. Curbing his natural instinct to rush the net and blast his opponent off court, Becker patiently waited for the openings in the first set.

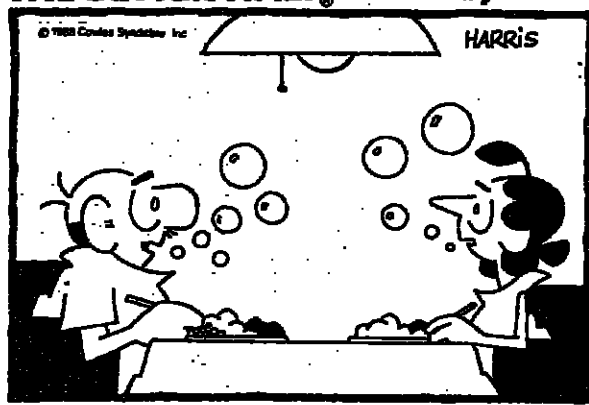
With his confidence growing, he began to play more aggressively as he took the next set comfortably. And though he suffered a lapse in the third when he trailed 5-2, Becker came through in style.

The fifth seed saved two set points at 5-3 in reeling off the last five games in a row. He took the match, appropriately enough, with a winning forehand volley at the net.

"I never really felt that I had a big problem out there," he said. "In the third set he played some good shots, he started to risk a little more and his shots were going in. But somehow I scrambled through."

Though experts always predict an early exit for Becker at Roland Garros, his record is much better than generally imagined.

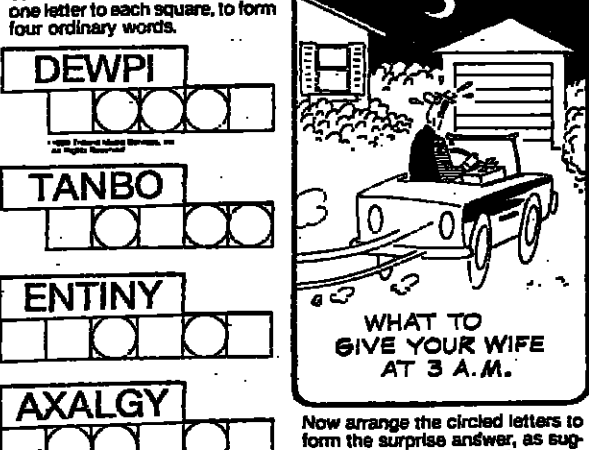
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"When you use plastic storage containers, it's hard to tell the difference between soap powder and instant potato flakes."

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



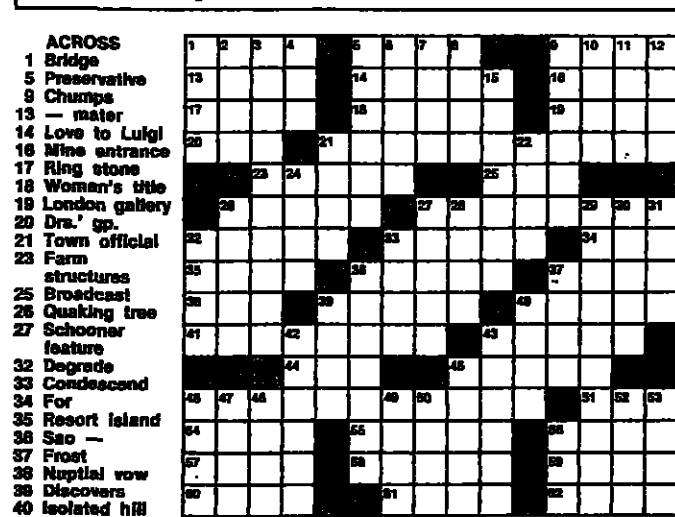
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: AN

Yesterday's Jumbles: ABOVE ENACT WEASEL FLUNKY

Answer: What the cowboys were hoping to get out of the rodeo — A FEW BUCKS

THE Daily Crossword by Diane C. Baldwin



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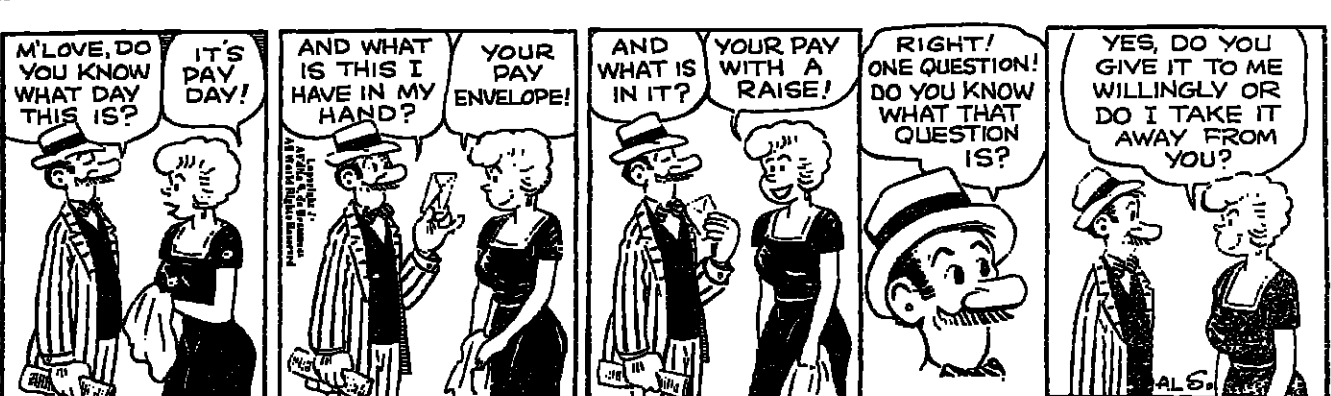
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1 Bridge	8 Streetcar	15 Seldom	49 Roman poet
2 Preservative	9 Woodland	16 Outdid	50 DNA site
3 Chumps	10 Gaudy man	17 Mr. Lombardi	51 Completely
4 — matter	11 Pocket bread	18 Movie dog	52 Party spread
5 Love to Luigi	12 Bc. gun	19 Edging	
6 Wine entrant	13 Commerce		
7 Ring stone	14 Prohibition		
8 Woman's title	15 To shelter		
9 London gallery	16 Claim		
10 Dr. 'n'	17 A fact		
11 Town official	18 Longstanding		
12 Farm	19 Squabbles		
13 structures	20 medium		
14 Broadcast	21 Druggist		
15 Quaking tree	22 Something		
16 Schooner	23 Knowledge		
17 feature	24 handed down		
18 Condescend	25 Descendant		
19 Fort	26 Barge for one		
20 Resort island	27 Preserves		
21 Sea	28 Sheds		
22 Frost	29 Gambling		
23 Nuptial vow	30 document		
24 Discover	31 Funeral fire		
25 Isolated hill			
26 Verandas			
27 Immerse in water			
28 Coverlet box			
29 Chapter			
30 Fortuneteller			
31 Food fish			
32 Irritated			
33 Happening			
34 Pedestrian part			
35 Shadow			
36 Becomes			
37 Branding instrument			
38 Host			
39 Real estate document			
40 Funeral fire			

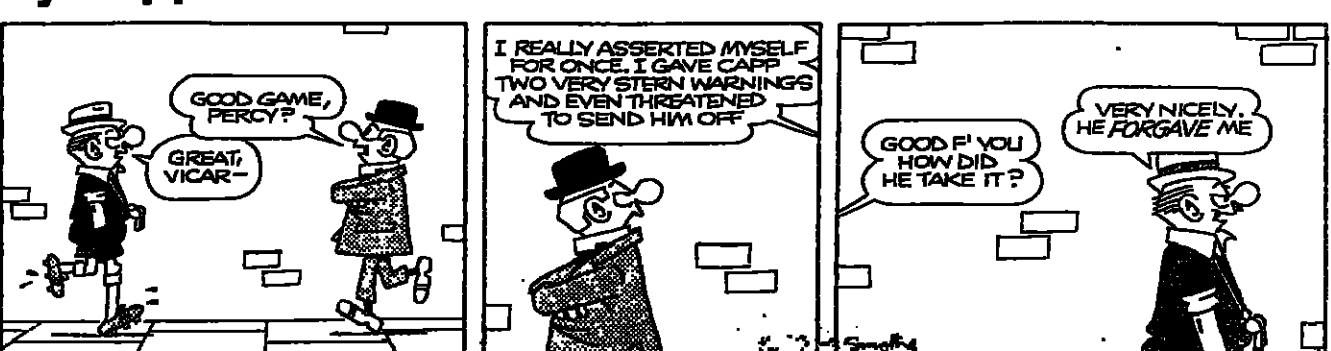
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Ryzhkov calls for profit incentives for cooperatives

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov called Tuesday for the legalisation of profit-making incentives to spur the development of urban and rural cooperatives, the new growth area of Kremlin economic reform.

Presenting a draft law on cooperatives to the Supreme Soviet (parliament), Ryzhkov acknowledged that the state sector was not coping with reform and said cooperatives could provide a flexible alternative way to fill the market with goods.

Under the law, to be adopted Wednesday, all Soviet citizens will be free to join cooperatives with no limits on taxable earnings, Ryzhkov said. In the countryside, collective farmers will in theory be freed from some state control.

"The significance of the draft law for the present and future of our society is enormous," Ryzhkov declared. "In a short period of time cooperatives can solve the most acute problems of 'perestroika' (restructuring)."

Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev has said cooperatives should be made fully equal with the state sector in what has been described as his boldest economic reform to date.

But controversy has surrounded the fledgling cooperative movement since it began taking shape 18 months ago, with critics charging that entrepreneurs could undermine socialism.

Ryzhkov said there were now 20,000 cooperatives, 6,000 of

which had sprung up since the draft law was published in March. Their activities range from manufacture of bumper-stickers and Western-style clothing to housing construction, transport services and running restaurants.

But Ryzhkov said many local officials were doing their best to thwart budding cooperatives by failing to provide them with working space and necessary materials. He said 84 per cent of cooperatives in the Moscow region had faced such obstacles.

The law should prevent such bureaucratic interference, Ryzhkov said. He said it would give workers the right to leave the state sector for cooperatives and decide how to distribute their earnings. Unprofitable cooperatives would be liquidated.

In theory, this should provide strong incentives by freeing Soviet workers from ceilings on their income. But critics say tax provisions accompanying the law would undercut the incentives and could discourage people from risking joining cooperatives.

The progressive taxation measures, in effect since April 1 under a decree drafted by the finance ministry, will strip the most profitable cooperatives of 90 per cent of their earnings.

Ryzhkov said the measures were justified as "a reliable regulator in the hands of the state" which would prevent people in "shadow sectors of the economy" from making too much money.

He said most cooperatives

would be taxed at levels low enough to preserve incentives, but gave no details.

Turning to agriculture, Ryzhkov said Soviet collective farms had accumulated a debt to the state of 88 billion roubles (\$146 billion) due to passive management and misuse of the land caused mainly by excessive centralisation.

He said a return to cooperative principles would involve giving collective farmers broader rights to sell their products where they saw fit, to lease land for private farming and earn as much income as was justified by their production.

"We are quite capable of changing Soviet farming and rehabilitating the country agriculturally," he said, calling the supply of quality food the country's main problem.

Danish film wins Golden Palm Award

CANNES (AP) — "Pelle the Conqueror," a Danish film about a boy's coming of age in the 19th century, won the Golden Palm Award Monday as best film of the 41st Cannes film festival.

The prize for best actor went to American Forest Whitaker for his interpretation of jazz great Charlie Parker in the film "Bird," directed by Clint Eastwood, who appeared on stage with Whitaker at the ceremonies.

Three performers shared the best actress award, American Barbara Hershey, South African Linda Mvusi and 13-year-old Jodhi May of Britain, who accepted the award for the trio.

Director Bille August, who also wrote "Pelle the Conqueror" based on a novel, calmly received the top prize from French film star Gerard Depardieu and Italian director Ettore Scola, president of the 10-member festival jury.

"I was surprised when my name was announced," August said at a news conference after becoming the first Danish director in the 41-year history of the festival to receive the prize.

"Pelle the Conqueror," ("Pelle Erbreren") tells the story of Lasse and his 9-year-old Pelle, who leave Sweden to work as cattle-men on a farm in Denmark where they are treated like slaves.

Through the love of his father and the friendship of a farmhand, Pelle develops a craving for freedom and finally revolts against his bosses to go out to seek his fortune in the world.

Film star Max Von Sydow plays Lasse. Thirteen-year-old Pelle Hvenegaard plays the boy. It was the young Danish actor's first role. Martin Anderson Nexø wrote the novel on which the film is based.

Whitaker, who also appeared in "Platoon" and "The Color of Money," was joined on stage to accept the award by Eastwood, who grinned at his star.

"Bird" opens next week in France, a nation with a passion for American jazz. Saxophonist Parker, whose bebop swing influenced jazz musicians the world over, is well-known here 32 years after his death.

12 killed in Sikh violence

CHANDIGARH (R) — A Hindu family of six, including a boy of three, were among at least 12 people killed Monday in unabating Sikh separatist violence across the northern Indian state of Punjab, police said.

They said other victims included two policemen and two militant separatists.

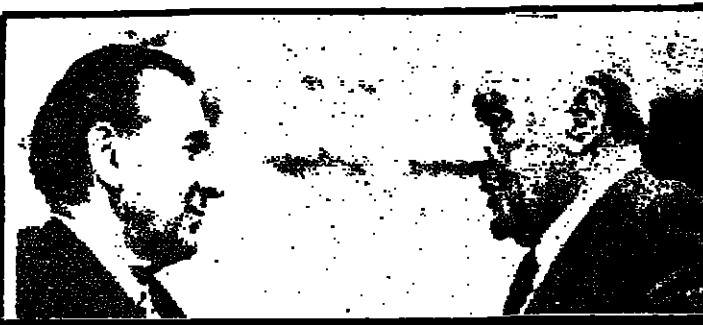
Nearly 1,100 people have been killed in the separatist campaign this year. Last year 1,230 people were killed.

Police in Chandigarh, the Punjab capital, said six militants burst into the home of the Hindu family near the town of Jalandhar in the early hours of the morning.

They said three women as well as the boy were among those mown down in a hail of bullets from Chinese-made AK-47 assault rifles.

A police patrol saved most members of another Hindu family attacked near Amritsar, the city housing the sprawling Golden Temple where the last 46 militants surrendered May 18 to end a 10-day siege of the Sikh faith's holiest shrine.

Police said militants fighting for an independent Sikh homeland they call Khalistan — land of the pure — shot dead Mohinder Pal, then herded nine members of his family into the house near Amritsar and set it ablaze.



Veteran Hungarian leader Janos Kadar (right) chats with Prime Minister Karoly Grosz during a break in Sunday's meeting of the Communist Party congress which voted out Kadar and the old guard leadership and named Grosz as party leader.

New Hungarian leader says reforms need time

BUDAPEST (R) — Hungary's new Communist leader Karoly Grosz told his countrymen Tuesday that reform was on its way but warned them not to expect everything to change overnight.

Prime Minister Grosz, who replaced aged veteran Janos Kadar as the Hungarian Communist Party general secretary in a radical reshuffle at a special party conference Sunday, said his country faced a long haul.

"The danger of reform is the accompanying illusions," Grosz said in a newspaper interview published Tuesday. "Many think that reform will change everything, while it is work that will change the situation."

"Thirty years of accumulated tension cannot be dissolved overnight," Grosz told the government daily Magyar Hirlap.

"Reform is a tool to create better opportunities for more efficient work. This is a time-consuming job. The decisions we take now will bring appreciable results only after several years... many think that we shall pass 10 reforms and the country's situation will change. This is not so."

Grosz, 57, came to power amid strong feeling within the party that Kadar, nearly 76, was blocking fundamental changes needed to rescue Hungary from economic woes including a bloated budget deficit and soaring foreign debt.

Hungary's press hailed the weekend party conference for sweeping aside psychological obstacles to all-out reform. But it also paid tribute to Kadar, who was ousted after almost 32 years as the nation's leader.

International rescue mounted to save ferry

LONDON (Agencies) — An international air-sea rescue operation was mounted Monday night after fire swept a ferry carrying 75 people across the channel, British coastguards said.

One person was reported seriously injured and another was missing.

Ships and helicopters from Britain, France and Belgium rushed to aid the blazing Seafreight Freeway ferry and hospitals in south England were put on alert.

Coastal authorities said the fire on the Sealink line freight and passenger vessel was contained but still burning after several hours. They said three lorries on board were believed to be carrying dangerous cargo and lifeboats were keeping a mile away from the blazing ship.

The Dover Harbour Board could not reveal which, if any, hazardous substances were on board the ferry.

The ship, carrying 43 passengers and 32 crew lost all power and rescue operations were being carried out in darkness.

Authorities said the blaze broke out in the engine room two hours after the 5,088-ton Seafreight Freeway, built in 1981, left Dover, England, for Zeebrugge, Belgium. Earlier reports said the ship was on its way from Ostend, Belgium, to Dover.

Belgian helicopters were standing by in Ostend to airlift passengers and crew to safety if the captain decided to abandon ship.

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Fugitive hijacker captured in Bogota

BOGOTA (AP) — The Colombian navy said a convicted kidnapper who used a toy hand grenade to hijack a Colombian airliner was captured Tuesday morning in a swamp near the international airport of the Caribbean coast city of Cartagena.

No one was injured in the 11-hour hijacking, which began during a morning flight from Medellin to Bogota and ended when the plane landed in Cartagena Monday night. All 128 passengers and the three flight attendants were freed shortly after the Avianca Boeing 727 was commandeered.

During the hijacking, a lone man claiming to have hand grenades forced the plane to fly to Panama and Aruba. He demanded \$100,000, saying he was dying of cancer and wanted the money so he could live out his days happily in Cuba.

The aircraft unexpectedly landed in Cartagena after the flight

crew persuaded the hijacker that they did not have enough fuel to reach Cuba.

Authorities knew nothing about the change of plans and were caught off guard. As the jet taxied in the darkness towards the Cartagena terminal, the hijacker lowered the rear stairway, jumped out and escaped.

The suspect was found at dawn Tuesday, hiding in a swamp on the edge of the airport, the navy said. He was being examined by doctors.

The navy said the suspect, Gonzalo Carreno Nieto, used a toy gun four years ago to kidnap an uncle.

Carreno spent nine years in prison after being charged with murder, lawyer Guillermo Garcia said. He eventually was found innocent and set free, but had become emotionally unbalanced in prison and turned to crime and drug abuse, Garcia told the radio network Caracol.

Philippine base talks said unlikely to collapse

MANILA (R) — U.S. and Philippine officials said they were making cautious progress in negotiations over the future of American military bases and dismissed talk of an imminent breakdown in the long-running talks.

Sources on both sides of the talks told Reuters Tuesday that the delicately balanced, closed-door discussions were unlikely to collapse.

"I think we're going to go on talking," one official close to the negotiations said.

In a brief statement at the end of Monday's session, spokesmen recorded "a fruitful exchange of views on issues already tabled."

"As long as we continue to meet and share our views then we're making progress," U.S. spokesman Mary Carlin Yates said.

Philippine sources said issues already discussed include the central question of the compensation paid for the use of the huge Clark Air Base, Subic Naval Station and three other smaller facilities, but they declined to give details.

Independent analysts say there is little sign so far that significant progress has been made since the talks began in early April.

The negotiations, which could end in July, are important to Washington's global defence strategy. Both sides have imposed a rigid news blackout on the actual discussions while issuing tough general statements outside the meeting.

Although most analysts still believe the bases will be allowed to stay past 1991, they say Washington's negotiators have been taken aback by the hard line taken by the Philippine panel.

In strongly-worded public statements, Philippine officials from Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus down have pushed the line that Washington will have to pay to be allowed to retain the bases.

The United States has countered with senior military figures saying the Pentagon is actively seeking alternative sites for the bases — the biggest military facilities it maintains in Asia.

Washington has refused to accept the Philippine definition of the payments as "rent" under the 25-year agreement which expires in 1991. Officials have scoffed at Manila's suggestions that payments of one billion dollars a year will be needed to extend the bases' tenure.

Sandinistas extend ceasefire for 1 month

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaragua has said it is unilaterally extending a temporary ceasefire but prospects for a new round of peace talks with the contras were clouded by bickering over where the meeting should take place.

"Nicaragua has decided unilaterally to extend for one more month the halt in offensive military operations... to give space for negotiations to continue," President Daniel Ortega told a news conference Monday.

A 60-day truce, the result of a preliminary peace accord signed in the southern border village of Sapoa last March 23, has been in effect since April 1 while peace talks continued and was due to expire next Tuesday.

But two rounds of follow-up talks in Managua in April failed to reach agreement on how to implement the accord, which had established mechanisms for the gradual return of the rebels to civilian life.

Ortega urged the contras also to carry on observing a ceasefire. But contra officials in the Honduran capital, Tegucigalpa, said they would have to meet the Sandinistas to decide whether to extend the truce.

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Thai teenager named Miss Universe

LINKOU, Taiwan (AP) — Miss Thailand Pornpit Nakhirunkanok, a 19-year-old who has spent most of her life in the United States, Tuesday became Miss Universe 1988 in a pageant dominated by Asian entrants.

Miss Nakhirunkanok wiped away tears and joined her hands in a Thai gesture of thanks as she assumed the crown from Miss Universe 1987, Cecilia Bolocco of Chile. She receives more than \$250,000 in cash and prizes that include a Maserati sports car and a mink coat. Three of the other four finalists were from Asia, including first runner-up Yunjung Chang of South Korea. Amanda Olivares of Mexico, Mizuho Sakaguchi of Japan and Pauline Yeung of Hong Kong were finalists in a field that began with 66 contestants. Taiwan authorities lifted a 23-year-old ban on beauty contests last October to bring the 37th Miss Universe extravaganza to this island. Organisers estimated about 70 million people watched the event, which was televised around the world from Linkou Stadium in suburban Taipei. Miss Nakhirunkanok, who weighs 51.3 kilograms (114 pounds) and stands 172.5 centimetres (5 feet 8 inches) tall, said she moved to Los Angeles with her family 15 years ago.

Although most analysts still believe the bases will be allowed to stay past 1991, they say Washington's negotiators have been taken aback by the hard line taken by the Philippine panel.

In strongly-worded public statements, Philippine officials from Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus down have pushed the line that Washington will have to pay to be allowed to retain the bases.

The United States has countered with senior military figures saying the Pentagon is actively seeking alternative sites for the bases — the biggest military facilities it maintains in Asia.

Washington has refused to accept the Philippine definition of the payments as "rent" under the 25-year agreement which expires in 1991. Officials have scoffed at Manila's suggestions that payments of one billion dollars a year will be needed to extend the bases' tenure.

Camels eat away mayor's pocket

ANKARA (R) — A Turkish mayor is being eaten out of house and home by four camels he took in after they were saved from death in a sacrifice ceremony.

"They are eating me out of my salary. I will go bankrupt if this goes on," Ibrahim Ozturk, mayor of Karakoceli near Ankara, told the independent Hurriyet News Agency. Supporters of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal had planned to sacrifice the beasts to mark his safe return from an eye operation in the United States last December. But Ozal asked that the animals be spared and Ozturk stepped in with an offer to house them. He told Hurriyet it was costing him about \$500 a month in camel feed. "The camels really belong to the prime minister and I expect him to find a way out," Ozturk said.

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WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Pakistan reportedly test-fired missile

NEW YORK (AP) — Pakistan recently test-fired a missile capable of carrying a nuclear weapon, according to a report in the New York Times citing American and Pakistani sources. The Times said an official in the administration of President Ronald Reagan confirmed a report from Pakistan of the test firing. A source with ties to the Pakistani government said the missile was of "home design" but produced with the help of Chinese experts, the newspaper reported in its Tuesday editions. The Pakistani source said the missile was launched at a test range in southern Pakistan's Thar Desert April 25, and that it was capable of reaching Indian cities of Bombay and New Delhi, according to the Times. The Pentagon officials said Monday night they were unaware of any such test and did not believe Pakistan had any missile capable of carrying a nuclear warhead. "To our knowledge, Pakistan does not have any missile, long-range or tactical, capable of delivering a nuclear device," a senior Pentagon official said. The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, also said they did not believe Pakistan had acquired any missiles from anybody else. Pakistan is widely reported to have the capability to build nuclear weapons, or to be close to it. Neighbouring India exploded an atomic device in 1974.

French soldier shot dead 1 Kanak

NOUMEA, New Caledonia (R) — A French soldier shot dead a Melanesian Kanak in New Caledonia Tuesday, an armed forces communiqué said. It said the soldier believed he was being threatened and opened fire, wounding the Kanak who died later. On May 5, 19 Kanak separatists and two gendarmes were killed when commandos attacked a cave in the French Pacific territory to free 23 hostages held by the rebels. The communiqué said that during an early morning reconnaissance mission near Touho, about 350 kilometres north-east of Noumea, two soldiers saw "suspicious light signals." Soon afterwards two Melanesians, one carrying a gun, approached within a few metres of the soldiers. "One of the Melanesians shone his lamp on the two soldiers and put his hand quickly to his pocket," the communiqué said. It said one of the soldiers, believing he was being threatened, opened fire and wounded Kanak Albert Poutie, who died later. The communiqué said nothing about the fate of the other Kanak. Police have opened an inquiry into the incident. The shooting comes four days after a mission from France's new Socialist government arrived in New Caledonia to "re-establish dialogue" between pro-French settlers and Kanak separatists.

Malaysian police kill eight

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Police shot dead eight sword-wielding religious fanatics in the east Malaysian state of Sabah, newspapers reported Tuesday. The Star and New Straits Times said the incident occurred early Monday morning in the port of Sandakan when police were attacked by the eight, who were flowing robes bearing verses from the Koran. The dailies quoted Sabah police commissioner Zulkifli Rahman as saying the men were spotted by a police patrol car heading towards a police station. The eight smashed the windscreen of the car and headed towards the centre of the town, on the eastern tip of the vast island of Borneo, damaging vehicles and lamp-posts saying "where are the police, we want to chop them."

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